

Issue 1
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A Message from Hope

Happy New Year! Hope you had a beautiful holiday with your family and friends and enjoyed the recent snowstorm, despite the extended power outage. As expected, the fourth quarter was very busy as Outreach volunteers prepared for holiday activities and provided Thanksgiving meals, Christmas gift cards and Angel tree gifts to a growing number of clients.

2019 is shaping up to be another activity-packed year. Providing a compassionate and efficient experience to clients is a top priority. As our client base continues to grow and we increase our services, we've simply outgrown our current location. With that, we will relocate to a new facility at 2556 Memorial Highway; many of you know the building as Dr. Burch's medical clinic. We are so excited to begin serving clients there on February 4th.

Thank you for all you provide, whether through time or financial assistance, to help Outreach serve members of the Hickory Nut Gorge community. We simply cannot do this without your support. From all of us at Outreach, wishing you and your family a wonderful 2019!



“I want to take my gifts and talents and use what I've learned to share with the world. I want to make a contribution to the value of others.” — Germany Kent

2018 Holiday Update

The number of families served over the holidays increased again in 2018. The wonderful generosity of those in the Hickory Nut Gorge was evident, as Outreach received donations from community members, churches and business partners. Many families were able to provide a wonderful Thanksgiving and Christmas as a result of your support.

- ◆ # of families who received Thanksgiving meal boxes: 201 (15% increase over 2018)
- ◆ # of families who received Christmas gift cards/meals: 213 (26% increase over 2018)
- ◆ # of children who received Angel Tree gifts: 248 (20% increase over 2018)



About Our New Location



Before we know it, Outreach will be relocating to its new location. We will be opening for business on February 4th.

We will be expanding our hours and will be open on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays from 10AM to 4PM to serve clients.

The much needed additional space will provide enough room to have two shopping areas, expanded space for the Food for Kids Program and a consultation room for private conversations with clients. Additionally, there will be plenty of space to store extra product inventory.

Thank you to all of the volunteers that have helped over the last several months to get the new location ready to serve clients!

Outreach Volunteers Continue to Shine

Where would we be without our volunteers? That's not a question we want to answer. In 2018, more



than 40 volunteers generously donated over 4500 hours of their time, serving clients in the Food Pantry, packing Food for Kids boxes, managing product inventory, handling

administrative tasks, and working on fundraising projects. A warm thank you to each and every volunteer that helps to make the lives of our clients better every day.

Volunteers (cont.)

Are you passionate about helping others? There are a number of different volunteer opportunities at Outreach, and we would love to have you join the Volunteer Team. If you are interested in providing your time and talent, call the Outreach office during business hours and we can talk about the activities that you are interested in.

Special Thanks

- To the People in Need Grant Program for the very generous grant they awarded to Outreach. Coupled with the grant awarded by the RHI Legacy foundation, Outreach will be in a better position to make enhancements to the new facility and provide more sustainable foods to clients.
- To the Lake Lure Classical Academy National Honor Society for their very generous donation of over 3000 food items (Picture below)
- To Fairfield Mountains Chapel for providing Angel Tree gifts for over 100 children.
- To the Lake Lure Lions Club for their help wrapping Angel Tree gifts.
- To the Blue Ridge Humane Society for their monthly donation of dog/cat food.
- To all individuals, businesses, organizations and churches that provided financial support to Outreach programs.



Ways You Can Help Outreach

Outreach always accepts in-kind donations. The following are the items that we can accept that are most needed for the Food Pantry and Food for Kids Program.

- Low sugar cereal
- Chef Boyardee products
- Chunky soup
- Canned tuna and chicken
- Canned fruit
- Peanut butter and jelly
- Juice boxes and large containers
- Condiments – ketchup, mayo, mustard
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Deodorant for women/men
- Bar Soap
- Toothpaste and toothbrushes
- Small packages cookies/crackers/fruit
- Diapers and wipes

Who We Served – Food Pantry: January – December 2018

87%	White / Caucasian
13%	Black / African American
1%	Latino
51%	Male
49%	Female
56%	Children (0-17)
38%	Adults (18-64)
6%	Seniors (65+)
94	Average number of families served each month
343	Average number of individuals served each month

Who We Served – Food for Kids: January – December 2018

6	Average # of children receiving weekday school lunches
39	Average # of children receiving weekend backpacks

2019 Calendar of Events

- 2/3 Souper Bowl Sunday: Drop off Chunky Soup to Outreach starting 2/4
- 2/4 First day in new location
- 4/26 Shrimp & Grits Fundraiser at the Beach
- 5/25, 26 & 27 Spring Arts & Crafts Festival



About Hickory Nut Gorge Outreach: Our Mission

Hickory Nut Gorge Outreach is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization serving families in the Hickory Nut Gorge community, which extends into four counties. Our mission is to help eliminate hunger and provide emergency services with love and compassion to those in need that live in our community. Outreach is solely funded through donations from generous members of our community, fundraisers, and local food drives. Outreach does not receive any federal funds. Food and other products are purchased at a minimal cost from the MANNA Food Bank (a Feeding America partner), as well as at local stores. All Outreach programs and activities are fully supported by 40+ volunteers.

Visit us at <https://hickorynutgorgeoutreach.org>