

GENERAL RESOURCES for Congregations and Others

Charlotte Community ToolBank

The Charlotte Community ToolBank will happily provide tables, chairs, tents, and other equipment free of charge to those responding and directly supporting the COVID-19 pandemic. If your organization is providing free lunches, sorting food for families practicing self-isolation, staging pop-up testing sites, etc., and has a need for our equipment, please call us at 704-469-5800. We are here to help! Please help us share with organizations who may have a need.

maureen.krueger@toolbank.org

www.charlotte.toolbank.org

The 2020 Census

The 2020 census remains an important way to make sure that government, business, educational, and not-for-profit resources are directed **equitably**.

This is a great time to elevate the fact there are **three ways to participate** in the Census operation:

Online - The Census can be completed online at my2020census.gov in 13 languages.

Phone - The Census can be completed by phone in 13 languages, 1-844-330-2020.

Mail - Wait for the Census Bureau to mail your household a paper form that can be mailed back to the Census Bureau.

Information Hotline

County Public Health Department has launched a hotline for people with questions about the new coronavirus and the disease it causes, COVID-19. The phone line is designed to provide information about the new coronavirus and COVID-19 to *medical providers, members of the media, people who may be experiencing virus symptoms and members of the public who have questions*. The hotline phone number is 980-314-9400. It will be open **daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for general inquiries** and **24 hours a day for the medical community**. [CLICK HERE](#)

Volunteer and Donation Opportunities

In this, as in any crisis, the most vulnerable suffer first, suffer most and suffer longest. In response, we have been communicating with some of our area direct service providers to ask how people can work to lessen the impact of our current challenges on our neediest neighbors.

You are also urged to direct people experiencing critical needs to these resources. There may be many people who've never before needed such support who may be unaware of the resources available.

Loaves and Fishes: Effective immediately, we are limiting volunteer groups to no more than 10 individuals but are adding extra shifts to meet the need. More details [here](#).

Financial donations are most appreciated at this time but we are also recruiting volunteers who would be willing to serve as **food box delivery drivers** if needed in the coming weeks. Volunteers would need to be able to lift 25lb-emergency food boxes to deliver to the doorstep of medically referred clients. If you can help please sign up [here](#).

The Urban Ministry Center, since canceling the remainder of the Room in the Inn season due to health concerns, has consolidated their greatest needs into one **Amazon list:** [click here](#) You can also support their emergency plans and neighbors by **donating online:** [donate here](#).

They are also requesting **bagged lunches**:

Bagged Lunches for Urban Ministry Center | Men's Shelter of Charlotte

- All bagged lunches should be non-perishable and pre-packaged.
- Between our two shelters and our day center, we serve over 700 lunches per weekday.
- No amount is too big or too small - we accept any number of bagged lunches you are able to donate.
- Lunches will be distributed in a grab-n-go fashion.
- Lunches can be provided in gallon-sized plastic bags or a lunch-sized paper bag.
- Bagged lunch donations can be delivered to our Day Services Center **from 8 am-1 pm every day**. The address is: 945 North College St. Charlotte, NC 28206
- Each bag should contain the following items:
 - At least one ready-to-eat protein that is accessible without a can opener (i.e.- tuna, chicken, turkey or meat packets or tabbed cans)
 - 1-2 fresh fruits (i.e.- apples, bananas, oranges)
 - 1 carbohydrate (i.e.- crackers, nut and trail mixes, granola and power bars, chips)
 - 1 dessert (i.e.- cookies, individual cakes, muffins)
 - 1 bottled water
 - Utensil for eating if required for any food items
 - Napkin/paper towel if possible

Second Harvest, deeply involved in these efforts, is looking for volunteers and donations to feed: families whose children are missing school meals, seniors being asked to stay safely in their homes, those in need of food who are quarantined, and employees in our community being impacted by decreases in work hours.

[Click here for more information from Second Harvest](#)

Urban Promise Charlotte needs donations to their [Family Stability Fund](#).

QC Family Tree: Some immediate needs for **donations**:

- **Individually wrapped snacks, canned goods, nonperishables, books for the little free library, tutors** to work with the children online or in-person if schools are closed beyond March 30.
- In addition, we have added supplies to our **Amazon wishlist**, which you can access [here](#).
- We will be providing **rent relief** to our tenants whose jobs have been impacted by the Coronavirus. If you would like to donate to help alleviate the financial stress caused by the virus, you can [donate here](#). Please see below for an update on the **MeckMIN service project** in cooperation with QCFT that is *STILL* planned for **Friday, April 3**.

Donate Blood: Blood drive organizations are asking for healthy people to go donate blood now, while they are healthy, which could prevent a shortage later as regular surgeries will still need blood.

Project 658: A fund has been set up to provide relief and hope in the form of gift cards for food and essential needs of the families we serve during the COVID-19 pandemic. All donations directed toward this fund will go directly toward those in need.

ourBRIDGE: An afterschool program for immigrant and refugee children where kids get help with homework, have fun, and enjoy a healthy dinner. They are supporting families with care packages of food, toys, books, hand sanitizer, and more. [Donate online](#), or drop off goods at their center at 3925 Willard Farrow Drive, 28215.

Project BOLT: A grassroots group that is combining grassroots efforts to alleviate food shortages via delivery and pop up stations. Donations to support this effort can be sent via [CashApp](#) to \$projectbolt.

Mecklenburg County Hotline: for Covid-19 related volunteers - 704-432-4187

Crisis Assistance shares this update: We are no longer accepting non-monetary donations or volunteers at this time. Our facilities have closed to prevent any COVID infection among our staff, volunteers, and customers. With Duke Energy committed to keeping power/gas running, City of Charlotte keeping water running and the NC Courts System stopping all eviction proceedings during this time, the immediate need for financial crisis resolution for utilities and rent has been delayed. These bills will

continue to grow and will need to be paid so we expect an unprecedented need for financial assistance in a few months. Our customers are facing the loss of income, increased expenses with healthcare, food, and childcare so we know there will be negative impacts on their budgets and thus the increased need for assistance in the near future.

We are working remotely and will notify you when we reopen our facilities.

Financial contributions can be made online anytime [here](#).

Friendship Trays shares this update: We regret that Friendship Trays has canceled all deliveries to most recipients effective immediately. We have stopped cooking in our kitchen because the advisories for social distancing are impossible to meet in our facility. We cannot tell at this time when we will be able to resume regular service.

Friendship Trays staff members are calling all recipients to listen to their current situations. Most have some access to food. For those who have none, we will be responding as best we are able. An inventory of frozen meals may become available soon and we will enlist others as appropriate to ensure that all who are in danger of malnutrition are served. After making initial contact with recipients, the Friendship Trays staff will continue to stay in touch by phone. As announced earlier, all volunteers have been asked to put their volunteering duties on hold. **We will continue to receive nonperishable food item donations** to assist those who need services. **Please deliver them to 2401A Distribution St.** We appreciate all of the community's support of Friendship Trays during this health emergency.

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