



Strengthening the Nets

The current COVID-19 virus pandemic is an unprecedented event for most Americans. Galilee Ministries is heeding the wise directive to limit social interaction and thus "flatten the curve." Some of us have the luxury of a full refrigerator and stockpiled toilet paper. We weather this crisis from the comfort of our Netflix stream and backyard fire pits.

There are others in our community who are not so fortunate. For those who rely on school breakfasts and lunches to feed their children and the kindness of area churches to house them in winter months, the safety net has quickly worn very thin.



In this time of crisis, Galilee Ministries is attempting to strengthen the resources that we provide to our neighbors while minimizing exposure to the virus for our staff and volunteers. These measures include:

- Prohibiting gatherings of any size on the property.
- Instituting strict sign in procedures for anyone in the building. Even staff is working staggered shifts to minimize our contact with one another.
- Placing hand sanitizer, wipes, hand washing and "how to cover your cough" signs throughout the buildings.
- Continuing our Wednesday Charlotte Community Kitchen lunch as a take out meal served from the "Movable Feast" trailer in the front yard.
- Opening the Loaves & Fishes pantry two days a week, using a streamlined group of volunteers, serving clients one at a time through the side door.
- Supporting Refugee Support Services and Society of St. Andrew's weekly gleaned food distribution for refugees in our back parking lot, having clients remain in their cars and volunteers put the produce directly into the trunks of the cars.
- Delivering "goody bags" to our senior and differently-abled neighbors at St. Andrew's Homes to support them through this time of social isolation.

As we see businesses, churches, schools, and other non-profits struggle with how to continue their work, we realize our unique position in being nimble enough to step into some gaps and strengthen the safety net for our neighbors.

Next week we will increase our capacity to provide more meals for our community out of the Movable Feast. Not only will this feed our neighbors, but it will also employ a few of our faithful volunteers who are furloughed from their usual restaurant work.

Our work continues and your support is needed more than ever. If you are able to make a gift to support Galilee Ministries of East Charlotte, please do so! Your generosity makes a real difference in the lives of many of our neighbors.

As we flatten the curve, let's work together to strengthen the net.



THANK YOU!

In the midst of chaos and confusion, we would like to pause and thank you for your service and support! On behalf of the over 700 neighbors served weekly, we say thank you for your service and support. The East Charlotte community is changing because of your commitment to us.

With the Coronavirus precautions mentioned above, we will continue to serve our neighbors. Your financial support makes that possible. Please consider a [financial contribution](#) if you are unable to join us over the next few weeks. Thank you again for your investment in East Charlotte!



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