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#Community Helping Community

A COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY SERVING LOCAL FAMILIES IN NEED

CELEBRATING OUR VOLUNTEERS

In this issue of #Community Helping Community, we take the opportunity to recognize the dedicated volunteers who make it possible to fulfill the mission of St. James' Outreach House. National Volunteer Month, celebrated each April, is an opportunity to recognize the impact of volunteer service and the power of our volunteers to make a difference in the lives of our neighbors in need. By honoring the volunteers in our Outreach House community we hope to encourage others to volunteer as well.

As most of you know, Outreach House operates on a 100% volunteer basis. We have never nor do we now have any paid staff. The generosity of our volunteers is what allows Outreach House to provide a welcoming venue where our neighbors in need shop for essential goods. Our volunteers work with clients providing support during our shopping hours and behind the scenes sorting and displaying gently used clothing, dating and shelving donated and purchased food supplies, and transporting donations from our community partners to Outreach House.



What is a volunteer?

A volunteer is a person who does something willingly without being forced or paid to do it. To quote several community activists, "A volunteer is someone who shares his/her knowledge and experience with others". "A volunteer is someone who spreads love, kindness, and hope one hour at a time." "A volunteer enhances the spirit of giving and makes a positive impact on the lives of others." "A volunteer is someone who knows the importance and rewards of lending a helping hand."





CELEBRATING OUR VOLUNTEERS, CONTINUED...

Who are Outreach House Volunteers?

An Outreach House volunteer is anyone who generously gives time, talent, energy, or resources to support the mission of Outreach House. Our volunteers are young and old, male and female. They are students, members of the workforce, and retirees. We celebrate our volunteers who do the actual day-to-day work that keeps the operation moving. Those volunteers may be found helping clients shop twice each month, marking and shelving food for our grocery shelves, sorting and displaying apparel and shoes for the clothing room, or collecting and weighing items from our business partners.









VOLUNTEERS BEYOND OUR WALLS

We also consider volunteers those who collectively fill the Outreach House donation bin each week and those who donate funds that allow the purchase of needed items not received through in-kind donations. In the broadest sense of the word, we consider anyone supporting Outreach House whether through physical labor or a sharing of resources a volunteer. Our volunteers do not *all* have the time to physically work at Outreach House, but each has the heart to generously support our program in the way that works for them.

Many of those who assist Outreach House are volunteers from other churches and/or organizations. Some we see frequently and others only occasionally when they have accumulated goods. No matter the frequency, we

appreciate their giving spirit and think of them as our own.



A member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Oaks, delivers collected clothing



A member of Trinity Lutheran Church, Fairview Village, delivers items from their weekly food drive



Veterans in Recovery help a community member with his donations



WHAT OUR CLIENTS HAVE TO SAY

If you have ever wondered whether a simple act of *kindness*, no matter how small, can have the power to create a positive ripple in an individual or across our community read the comments from some of our clients quoted below:

"Volunteers are always so kind...they understand us and really care. The world needs more people like them"









WHAT OUR CLIENTS HAVE TO SAY

"Love you guys!"



"I have been coming to Outreach House for over a year. I love coming here because everyone goes beyond."



"Things are organized and neat. Volunteers are always pleasant and helpful."

"I really appreciate the volunteers. They are generous with their time and go out of their way when my work schedule is an issue."

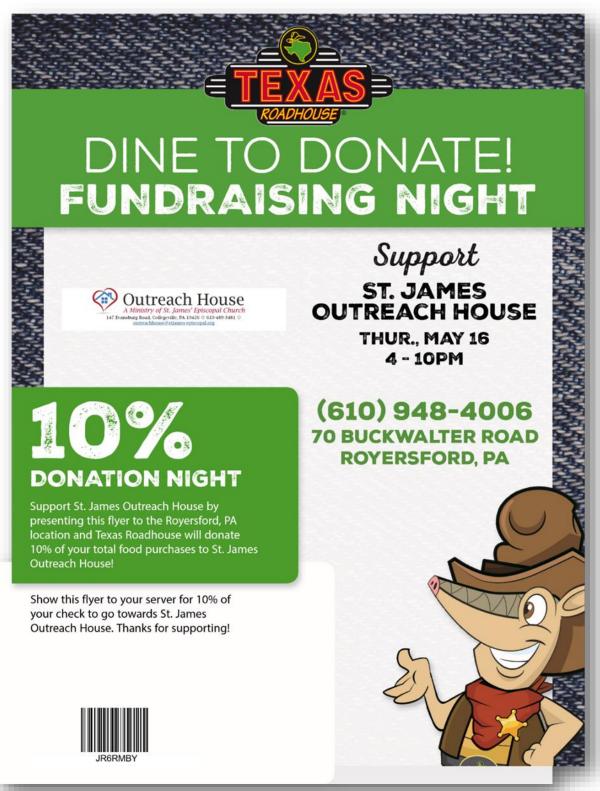
"Wonderful friendly people. Grateful I can come here."



MAY COLLECTIONS & FUNDRAISERS

Join us on May 16 for dinner at the Texas Roadhouse in Royersford.

flyer must be shown to your server for Outreach House to receive your portion of the donation



MAY COLLECTIONS & FUNDRAISERS

United States Postal Service presents: Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive - Saturday, May 11







Redner's Market Collegeville:

Grand Opening Event

Shop Saturday, May 18

to support Outreach House

The store is donating a % of daily sales to local nonprofits during May

Ways to Donate

Special Donation Events:

July School Supply Drive

Visit us online!

www.stjames-episcopal.org/ outreach -house



There are so many ways that you can help!

- Monetary Donations—scan the QR Code below to make an instant monetary donation to the St. James' Outreach House to help with the purchase of food and supplies for our clients.
- Organize a Drive—whether you focus on a particular product such as canned goods, paper goods or personal care items, or you hold a general drive, every single donation helps a local family in need.
- Volunteer—you can also donate your time to help stock shelves, assist clients and mark clothing for recycling or for the shelves. All are welcome to lend a hand!
- Recycle—believe it or not we can recycle your old clothing, towels, sheets and shoes and turn them into money for the purchase of food and products to stock our shelves! This is a win-win option because it also prevents those items from going to a landfill. Just mark your donation "Recycle" and place in our donation area. We will handle the rest!





Donate Today!

St. James' Episcopal Church

knowing and serving God by serving others

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