

# CC MONTHLY

*The official newsletter of Charity Crossing*



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## Happy 6th Birthday, Charity Crossing!

*by Shriya Rajagopalan*

Charity Crossing celebrated its 6th anniversary on September 22, 2021. In honor of this special day, CC volunteers have created a video on our mask, spray, and wipe distribution drive. The link to the video can be found in the Masks/Wipes/Spray Distribution Giveaway article in this issue of our newsletter. Not only was it Charity Crossing's birthday, but our founder, Jay Muthukamatchi also celebrated his own birthday on this day. He quotes, "I started Charity Crossing when I turned 50 as a way to give back to the community. My dream is for the youth volunteers (future leaders) to take volunteering to the next level." He continues, "Find something to give back to the community." Many of our volunteers feel like after joining Charity Crossing, volunteering has become their passion, and that is all thanks to the great opportunities given by Jay.



He also mentions the other reason for starting this nonprofit, which was to educate youth volunteers on improving their people skills and communication to be successful later in life. For example, people living in the suburbs have very little interaction with people in the city. Charity Crossing's mission is to break this barrier. We teach our volunteers to experience the positive and negatives of the interaction with other organizations, people in need, etc. "If you don't make an effort, the answer is always no."

We are proud to reveal that in 6 years, we have given back 2 million dollars worth of material. Our volunteers also gave back 250 hours per week. Looking back on these statistics, Charity Crossing hopes to continue to make a difference in our community and expand this act of kindness to more areas. Way to go volunteers!

## Warehouse & Truck Fundraiser Update

by *Abhinav Parmar*

On June 19th, Charity Crossing officially moved into a new warehouse, thanks to Second Chances Farm and Ajit Mathew George for their generosity and partnership. The move to the warehouse elevated Charity Crossing's ability to serve the community, by serving as a base point for all of Charity Crossing's donations. The ability to have all the donations in one central location allowed all locations such as Rose Hill Community Center, Second Chances Farm, Hicks, and MOT to acquire the exact donations they needed. This was shown during the month of August when Charity Crossing started giving away school supplies for the approaching school year; each location was able to acquire a surplus of donations from the warehouse and then donate it to the community.

As Charity Crossing's ability to distribute donations has increased greatly due to the warehouse, our usage of U-Hauls has increased greatly as well. However, as Charity Crossing is a non-profit organization, the price that is paid for the U-Hauls accumulate over time. Therefore, an idea was pitched to purchase our own truck that would be exclusive for Charity Crossing. The price of a truck, however, is not cheap-- In response to this issue, Charity Crossing launched a fundraiser to raise the needed \$40,000. \$11,000 out of the \$40,000 have already been donated by the community. If you would like to support Charity Crossing and help us reach our goal, we encourage you to visit the Charity Crossing website and visit the donation menu. All needed information is provided there.





# Mask, Spray, and Wipe Distributions

by Kirti Daga

As the COVID-19 Delta variant started gaining dominance during the pandemic, families and friends were being hit harder than ever by its consequences. The mixture between trying to reopen places but keeping masks mandated, and many other factors combusted a spectrum of stress and discontinuity among the community. However, throughout the unpredicted chaos, Charity Crossing still managed to bring out their helping hands to serve their community. Partnering with Second Chances Farm, Charity Crossing presented truckloads of donations of face masks, disinfectant sprays, and wipes to help communities stay safe against the COVID-19 Delta Variant.



Volunteers contacted numerous organizations such as their local hospitals, schools, shelter homes, daycares, religious affiliations, military bases, and many more organizations in Delaware, New Jersey, Philadelphia, and many more locations throughout the East Coast to help deliver an equivalence of \$800,000 worth of supplies regardless of the heat, distance, or drowsiness kicking in throughout the aftermath of the summer time. From unloading to delivery the volunteers worked tirelessly to make sure every donation was given to a person who needed it. Accumulated so far, approximately 1.14 million masks, 16,650 disinfectant spray cans, 18,000 disinfectant wipes, just in the US, alone. These groundbreaking numbers have not only gained the financial value of their services but also helped gain emotional and moral support for communities to maintain a momentum of hope throughout the midst of the pandemic. To check out a glimpse of the volunteers' hard work, click on the video link: <https://charitycrossing.org/mask-wipe-and-spray-distribution/>



# Holiday Drive

by Nithi Chrisostam

Last year, Macy's generously donated nearly 700 dresses to Charity Crossing for distribution in the community. These donations ranged from prom dresses, to dresses for children. CC volunteers then sorted these dresses, and distribution events were held to give out these dresses to the community. These donations were much appreciated by many families, who were able to use these dresses for events and holidays like Christmas and Easter. Many women were also able to utilize these donations for proms and other formal events. Thanks to the efforts of our volunteers and partners, the Holiday Drive was a fantastic success.



This year, the Holiday Drive will be led by Shil, Adithi, and Ashika. Similar to last year's events, 2021's Holiday Drive will focus on providing dresses and other winter clothing to communities in Delaware. We hope that this drive can bring joy and spirit to our local communities, especially as we approach the holiday season. If you are interested in joining this effort, or would like to learn more, please contact Shil, Adithi, or Ashika.



# Hygiene Drive

by Nithi Chrisostam

It is estimated that a total of 3.5 million people in the United States do not have access to menstrual hygiene products-- This troubling statistic is unfortunately one that has been made worse due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. To help solve this crisis, Charity Crossing is hosting a year-long hygiene drive, in which various products such as soaps, toiletries, tampons, pads, etc. are collected and distributed to benefit less fortunate communities.

We encourage all CC volunteers to join us in helping lower this statistic, and ensuring that people of all communities have access to hygiene products. Acceptable donations include soaps, shampoo/conditioners, feminine products, first-aid products, dental products, tissues, wipes, etc. There are drop-off locations in Bear, Newark, Middletown, and Wilmington in Delaware, as well as Garnet Valley in Pennsylvania. More specific information can be found on the Hygiene Drive flyer, which can be found on CC's website and Facebook. For more information, please contact Yuvakshi, Samveda, or Meera.





# Weekly Serves

*by the Newsletter Team*

Charity Crossing's weekly serves are the cornerstone of our organization. Every Sunday, volunteers gather at one of our four locations to distribute donations to communities in need. These locations, as shown below, include the "Hicks" Community Center and Second Chances Farm in Wilmington, DE, the Rose Hill Community Center in New Castle, DE, and the Trinity AME Church in Middletown, DE. Our impact on the community continues to grow every day, and it is due to the work of our hard-working and dedicated volunteers that we can continue to run these operations smoothly and effectively.

The image below is the official flyer posted on social medias, as well as our Charity Crossing website, to advertise these weekly serves and showcase them to the community. In order to spread the impact of this flyer, we encourage you to please share this on your own Facebook wall and send it to friends and family. Thank you for your hard work, volunteers!



The flyer features the Charity Crossing logo at the top center, which includes the text "CHARITY CROSSING" in a semi-circle above a graphic of two stylized figures holding hands, and a banner below with the text "CONNECT • SHARE • CARE". To the left of the main text is a 4x6 grid of 24 small images showing various household items like books, kitchenware, tools, and food. The main text "Community Giveaway Every Sunday" is in a large, white, serif font. Below it, the tagline "Helping Our Community and Mother Nature" is in a smaller, yellow, sans-serif font. The flyer is divided into four light blue boxes, each containing the date, time, and address for a weekly serve. At the bottom, there are four logos: Second Chances Farm (a green shield with a tree), a purple star with a cross and the text "TRINITY AME CHURCH", Rose Hill Community Center (a tree with the text "ROSE HILL COMMUNITY CENTER"), and the Seal of the City of Wilmington, Delaware (a circular seal with a building and the text "SEAL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON DELAWARE").

**Community Giveaway Every Sunday**  
 Helping Our Community and Mother Nature

<p><b>Sunday 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm</b>                  "Hicks" Community Center                  501 N Madison St,                  Wilmington, DE 19801</p>	<p><b>Sunday 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm</b>                  Rosehill Community Center                  19 Lambson Ln,                  New Castle, DE 19720</p>
<p><b>Sunday 11:30 am to 1:30 pm</b>                  Second Chances Farm                  3030 Bowers St,                  Wilmington, DE 19802</p>	<p><b>Sunday 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm</b>                  Trinity AME Church                  27 Lockwood St,                  Middletown, DE 19709</p>








# Reminders

## Youth Leadership Program

CC's Youth Leadership Program for the 2021-2022 school year is officially open! This program aims at giving our youth the opportunity to learn critical life skills and make an impact on their community. Youth leaders must successfully lead an initiative under CC and display leadership qualities. For more information, email [info@charitycrossing.org](mailto:info@charitycrossing.org).

## Amazon Smile

Charity Crossing is a member of the Amazon Smile program, which is a great way to raise funds and reach more people in need. To start off, Amazon Smile has the same products as the Amazon that you normally shop on, except this site donates a part of the money from your purchase to Charity Crossing. No extra cost to you! Please go on [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) or use the regular Prime app on your phone to sign up first. For more instructions on how to sign up, please check out the Amazon Smile flyer in CC's website and Facebook.

## Matching Donations

As Charity Crossing is a non-profit organization, a big part of the reason we can constantly serve the community is due to help from corporate donors. An amazing example of this occurred earlier this year in February, when JP Morgan Chase, Bank of America, and other employers matched employee donations and helped raise \$11,713 for Charity Crossing's vehicle fundraiser. We encourage you to check with your employer to see if there are similar programs available!

## Submitting Volunteer Hours

Hello volunteers! This is a reminder to submit your September service hours by Oct. 10th. If this is your first time, please complete the Excel spreadsheet provided on the website, and email to [certificates@charitycrossing.org](mailto:certificates@charitycrossing.org). For all existing youth volunteers, please include your date of birth in your September service hours submission email. We would like to evaluate if you have earned enough service hours to be eligible for the PVSA awards. Keep up the great work, and thank you!

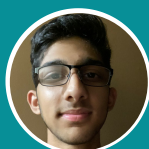
### MEET OUR TEAM!



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**Do you have any feedback on our newsletter? Contact us here!**  
<https://forms.gle/YHcDKthakNJyWe9U6>

