

CC MONTHLY

The official newsletter of Charity Crossing



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Father's Day Care Bags

by Abhinav Parmar

On June 19th we celebrated an annual tradition of recognizing and honoring everything our fathers do. Father's Day, Charity Crossing didn't overlook this celebratourious day without taking any action to contribute giving back to fathers. Several volunteers gathered at Goldy's house together to create father's care bags that contained many different assortment of items that would surely please any dad. The items that were contained in the bag were simple gadgets and tools, traveling cups, barbecue tools, first aid kits. Additionally chess boards and other board games inside the care bags were included that would allow fathers to enjoy quality time with their family. Clothing accessories such as socks, sweatshirts, T-shirts that were also provided. There were also many different hygienic products which included shaving kits, toothbrushes and toothpaste, and PPE items such as hand wipes and hand sanitizers.

Although the items were donated to us, it was the hard work of Samvedha, Meera, and Goldy for gathering the donations together. Nearly one hundred bags were made and distributed to all of Charity Crossing in 12 locations which stretched between 3 states, Delaware, Pennsylvania, and Maryland. This was only possible due to the tenacity and the will to help others On Father's Day. Sunday June 19th, all the bags were distributed at each and every serve location. The recognition received from all the grateful fathers made the hours of work entirely worth it.



Due to the perseverance and pure determination of our Charity Crossing volunteers that day was made even more special throughout all our locations for every Father who received a care bag, for every family that received more items to furnish and keep their home clean, and for our volunteers who got to see the Father's faces light up in pure joy at the sight of all the items they got in their care bag.

Charity Crossing would like to extend the gratitude that was given to us, to Amazon for supplying all the donations that were used to make these Father's day care bags. Without their generous assistance none of this would've been possible. We also would like to thank our volunteers for their great efforts to create these bags. Adil, Iqra, Vaishali, Suma, Sandra Abhijeet, Abhinav, and Goldy.

PACS Location

by Vedha Kalaivanan

The growth of the Charity Crossing volunteering team and the number of serves and initiatives taken by youth volunteers in Delaware inspired the neighboring Pennsylvania team to look out for opportunities to expand Charity Crossing. With support from the Phoenixville Area Community Services (PACS) organization, the Charity Crossing PA team successfully set up its first serve location in Chester County, PA. This is Charity Crossing's 12'th serve location! By starting this new serve location in PA, we are continuing to expand services to more communities and families who are in need.

PACS is a non profit organization which serves meals and food from its pantry and provides summer meal programs to students. By partnering with PACS in Phoenixville, Charity Crossing is providing many essential items as well as a number of non-perishable goods such as household goods, kids toys and clothes, hygiene products, and blankets to the community. The first serve was held on June 4th, and since then at least 30-40 families show up to collect donations every Saturday Morning. Special Fathers day care bags carefully packed by our CC volunteers were distributed, and it was great to see fathers and their happy faces when they received these gift bags.



The PACS volunteering team has been a huge help right from the beginning. Charity Crossing has highly passionate volunteers in the warehouse and they, along with leads and Jay Uncle, are the backbone in enabling CC to expand and serve better. Serves like these are also made possible because of generous donations from Amazon and Walmart. We encourage volunteers, especially youth volunteers to participate in these events which will provide great experience and also inspire others to give back to communities. Serves at PACS are held every **Saturday** at **101 Buchanan Street, Phoenixville PA**. Volunteering at PACS is surely a great way to help out the community, and we hope that you will join us in this weekly serve!



Dover Community Serve

by Tanmay Garudadri

After years of service in Northern Delaware, Charity Crossing served the new Dover Community's needs. We were able to provide over 100 families with supplies such as kids toys, clothes, canned food, medicine, Fathers Day care bags, baby items, household appliances, and more! We definitely made a big difference, and we were able to help those who were in need.

All of this was made possible by Charity Crossing's amazing team and the donations/help that we received from all of our partners. We thank Amazon.com, New Castle Walmart, Good360, and Bombas for donating items that were distributed. We also thank our volunteers; Veeresh Hiremath, Gifty Boateng, Raja Karpurapu, Pradnya Bendre, Jay Muthukamatchi, Akshay, Lalit, Karthik, Dickson, Srinitcha, Mahika, and Manya for helping have an amazing serve! We are grateful for the load of frozen food donations by Nakishia Williams Bailey and Dot Foods that were also used in part for the serve and appreciated by those who attended!.



Ready to Read

by Saathvik Swamy

The Ready to Read project is a joint effort by three organizations: Charity Crossing, Smart Kidz Club, and Neredit, is up and running. This collection drive is running from the beginning of June to the end of July. The main goal of this project is to collect properly functioning android tablets and apple ipads, refurbish them, and then distribute them to kids who cannot afford these electronics. With the help of these three organizations, along with its volunteers, we can give these underprivileged kids the platform to access online resources, and educate themselves virtually. This is important now, more than ever, after the effects of the covid-19 pandemic, allowing easy access to many resources, online.



This initiative is led by Suyash Singh, an upcoming junior, and youth advisor at Smart Kidz club. Regarding the project he stated, "It's a really good feeling to give kids online access to read because not everyone has the same privileges. No matter how small the impact may be, it's really important to try to positively contribute to your community. Success or failure, it's important to try because you'll never know, if you don't make the attempt." As we enter the last month of this drive, please remember to label the electronics as "DONATION FOR READY TO READ PROJECT", before donating. The drop-off times and location addresses can be read in the flyer below. Together let's help the underprivileged kids, get the educational resources they deserve.

The flyer is titled "Ready To Read Project" with a logo featuring the word "READY" in colorful letters. Below the title is the subtitle "DONATE YOUR USED TABLETS TO HELP CHILDREN READ". The text explains that volunteers will collect used tablets, refurbish them, and preload them with digital reading resources for children. It lists acceptable items for donation: Android tablets (up to Android 7.0) and Apple devices (12.9-inch iPad Pro, 11-inch iPad Pro, 10.5-inch iPad Pro, 9.7-inch iPad Pro, iPad 7th-generation, iPad 6th-generation, iPad 5th-generation, iPad mini 5th-generation, iPad mini 4, iPad Air 3rd-generation, iPad Air 2). It provides three drop-off locations: NERDIT NOW (1614 W Newport Pike, Wilmington, DE 19804) on Monday-Friday (10 am-6 pm) and Saturday (12 pm-5 pm); Smart Kidz Club (2306 Porter Road, Bear DE 19701) on Monday-Friday (9 am-5 pm); and Charity Crossing Volunteer Pickup Locations. A circular badge on the right says "The COLLECTION DRIVE WILL RUN June-July 2022". Logos for Charity Crossing, Smart Kidz Club, and NERDIT NOW are at the bottom.

Latin American Community Event

by Rohan

On May 18th, we were able to successfully conduct the Serving the 'Latin American Community' event at the Brandywine Park during the LACC Summer's Family Event. The event was an incredible success thanks to our very own CC Volunteers' dedication, perseverance, and determination! We were able to conduct this event through the LACC Summer's Family event, with great support from the Latin American Community Center, an organization that assists members of the Latin American Community.

We were able to help over 300 members of the Latin American Community by distributing donations such as bags, blankets, sanitizers, stationeries, clothes, toys, as well as special items including appliances, chandeliers, and much more thanks to Amazon and Walmart donations! Many families, parents, and children had huge smiles on their faces after receiving gifts and essential household items! CC was also able to help a new community, and in situations where we weren't able to communicate directly through English, the LACC translators stepped up, and helped them express their gratitude. These experiences were amazing both for the community members and for the volunteers, who will surely remember them as an important moment in their volunteering journeys.



On the behalf of CC, we'd like to give the LACC a huge thank you, both for helping us with the event, and with allowing us to volunteer at the community center! Additionally, we'd like to give a special thank you to Aditya Ameen and Jay Muthukamatchi, who were able to plan the event and coordinate with the LACC. Finally, we'd like to give appreciation to the various CC volunteers, including, Faisal Ameen, Iqra Ameen, Varun Rao, Preethi Rao, Harish Mysore, Madhavi Kanekal, Sivakumar Valgurusamy, Rujul Sivakumar, Janya Sivakumar, Kavitha Sivakumar, Ranjit Rathinam, Rahul Rathinam, and Rithika Rathinam, and many other volunteers for the perfect planning and amazing coordination.

Herring Manor Location

by Vedha Kalaivanan

With support from the Herring Manor residential community, Charity Crossing was able to launch a new successful serve location in Wilmington, Delaware. The first serve at the new location was successfully held on May 1st, and since then our team has been conducting donation giveaways at this location seamlessly every Sunday.

We provide families with donations such as toys, hygiene products, household goods, blankets, and socks. It gives us so much satisfaction and happiness when we see smiles on the faces of the families who receive these goods! There are a number of low income people and underprivileged families who attend the serve and get items essential to them during this economic situation where prices of commodities are much higher. When buying 3 meals a day is likely a big struggle, they cannot afford to buy hygiene/sanitary products, as well as items that give them joy, such as toys. During our serves, we not only provide these families with household items and non-perishable goods, we also provide them with hand sanitizers and other hygiene products.



This promotes a healthier lifestyle for these families! Sometimes, we also provide them with packaged foods, which brings great joy and happiness to those families and children.

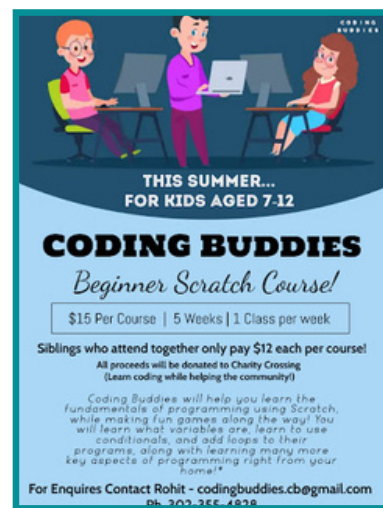
In the coming months, we expect that more youth volunteers from both Delaware and the neighboring Pennsylvania region will join the serve in this location and help communities who are in need. Volunteering at these locations will surely provide you an incredible opportunity to help those in need. Regular serves at Herring manor are conducted on **Sundays** at **2412 Market street, Wilmington DE**. This serve is a great way to give back to the community and help those in need, and we urge you to participate so you can not only help deserving people, but also make friends and obtain precious memories along the way!

Coding Buddies

by Rohit

Last summer, I conducted free programming classes, where I taught Scratch Programming to kids aged 7-11. While conducting these classes, I felt happy that I was teaching kids some skills that could be useful for them when they grow older. The kids were also very pleased! They loved learning how to make cool games, and they liked how easy it was. They had a great time while also learning concepts that would help them. I also wanted to do the same this year. However, this year I wanted to not only teach kids important skills, I also wanted the community to benefit from it. I wondered what I could do to achieve this goal.

While pondering, I came up with an idea. I wanted to charge a small fee for the classes, and donate all of the money to Charity Crossing. Because of this, kids can learn programming, and at the same time Charity Crossing can obtain funds so it can better help the community. Not only that, but I believed that fundraising would spark interest towards Charity Crossing, and expose people to it. More people would therefore be aware of Charity Crossing, and they would also help the community as well.



With all of this in mind, this summer I will be conducting Scratch Coding Classes again for kids aged 7-12, to teach kids fundamental programming skills while helping the community along the way!



Lums Pond Event

by Rohit

On June 26th, Charity Crossing joined hands with Firm Foundation and conducted a fabulous event at Lums Pond State Park. Volunteers got the opportunity to serve over 450 families, and make a big impact in the community! Jay, Raj, Aarti, Anitha, Harsha, Vaishnavi & Varshini from Charity Crossing and Asmita, Raul, Vyshnavi & Isheta from IAAD made the serve a huge success. Even though it was nearly 90 degrees outside, all the volunteers worked tirelessly and gave out a full truck load of household items, kids toys, food items, and more to the local community!



Upcoming Serve Location

Glasgow Park

Charity Crossing is opening a new serve location! The Glasgow Park serve will be Charity Crossing's 14th serve location. The serve will begin on July 9, and occur every Saturday. Volunteering at this new location will surely help the local community, so we are excited for it to begin!



Additional News

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 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!

Dollars-for-Doers Program

Dollars-for-Doers is a corporate program that distributes monetary grants to non-profit organizations where its employees volunteer. They are also known as volunteer grants or dollars-for-hours programs. The process of receiving one of these grants is essentially the same throughout corporations: First, the employee must volunteer with a non-profit. They then submit a request for a Dollars-for-Doers grant to their employer, who will verify the number of hours performed, then send a check to the non-profit organization. Many companies have different specifications for their grants, including the eligibility of their employees or number of volunteer hours performed. Check with your employer to see if such programs exist, as well as to understand the specific requirements enumerated by that company. Some nearby companies that offer dollars-for-doers, or volunteer grants, include Bank of America, JP Morgan Chase, Aetna, Microsoft, and many more. For more information, visit <https://doublethedonation.com/tips/dollars-for-doers-grants-definition/#:~:text=A%20Dollars%20for%20Doers%20program,Matching%20Time%20Programs>.

MEET OUR TEAM!



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