#### JULY 3, 2022

# **CC MONTHLY**

The official newsletter of Charity Crossing



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## Partner Spotlight: Junior league of Wilmington

by Jay Muthukamatchi and Heidi Williams

Access to affordable and safe period supplies plays an integral role in the lives of people in our community, and these supplies are exactly what the Junior League of Wilmington, DE (JLW) is committed to providing through their initiative, Stand Up. Period.

The JLW strives to achieve period equity for all Delawareans by removing barriers preventing people, particularly those living in poverty, from fully participating in their daily activities due to a lack of period supplies. Those without adequate period supplies experience school and work absences, opportunity losses, and emotional distress. In addition, societal stigmas often preclude open discussions about period equity. Because of this stigma, many organizations are not yet equipped to provide period supplies. The JLW is working to directly address this unmet need, helping menstruators confidently Stand Up. Period.

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Between June 2021 and May 2022, the JLW donated on average 26,000 products per month to their surrounding community, benefiting at least 880 people. Over a quarter of million-period products were provided to the community free of charge in one year alone!

One of those long-term partnerships is with Charity Crossing. The JLW began donating supplies to Charity Crossing in July 2021. Between July 2021 and May 2022, Charity Crossing received 2,500-period supplies monthly from the JLW, 25,000 total. The JLW has renewed its agreement with Charity Crossing for another year, and Charity Crossing is now receiving 3,000 supplies monthly. The JLW values its relationship with Charity Crossing and the extended reach to the community through Charity Crossing's donations. Through the JLW's partnership with Charity Crossing, the JLW can expand its fight for period equity and spearhead initiatives to bring lasting change to Delaware.

## **Glasgow Park**

#### by Rohit

With the support of the New Castle County, Charity Crossing began their first monthly serve at Glasgow Park on July 9th! More than 300 families benefited from the household goods, clothing, and food that they received from the serve. The serve helped the neighboring community as well. Almost 20 volunteers worked hard to make this serve possible! The day before the serve, they loaded a 20 foot UHaul truck with Amazon donations, household items, clothing and food. Even though it was rainy, all the volunteers showed up at 8AM and worked hard to help the community! Chandra Dontaraju and Krishna Prashad were the leads for this serve, and David L Tackett, the New Castle County Councilman graced the occasion as well.



## **Claymont serve**

by Sahil Tagore

Spring Church is based in Claymont Delaware. Since their inception in 2018, apart from their religious services, Spring Church has been providing other services to support the communities.

Recently, we had a discussion with Rep Larry Lambert and Pastor Meagan Farrare related to Charity Crossing providing their services at Spring Church to support the communities. With regards to this, we had our first monthly serve on 25th June. We served around 150 families and we expect these numbers to go up in the future. We distributed around 50 household boxes.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Rep Larry Lambert, Pastor Meagan Farrare, Charity Crossing leads, and around 15 volunteers from Charity Crossing and IAAD, for making this a successful event. In addition, we would also like to thank the volunteers from Charity Crossing who worked behind the scenes to sort and pack the items for this serve.



## **Quarterly Blood Drive**

by Karthi Jayakumar and Saathvik Swamy

On Saturday July 23, CC had its ninth quarterly blood donation drive at the Blood Bank of Delmarva. The event was a success, with 10 CC volunteers donating blood. Special mention to first time donors Anitha Sakthi and Sakthi Raghu. Other points of note include this being Charity Crossing founder, Jay Muthukamatchi's 12th time donating platelets, Veni Jaykumar's 30th time donating whole blood, and Kirti Daga being the youngest donor.

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Blood and platelets cannot be manufactured; they can only come from the volunteer donor. We are proud of Charity Crossing volunteers for donating blood. Every time they donate blood, they are saving at least three lives. In appreciation of their generosity, Jay Muthukamatchi will plant 30 fruit saplings (3 fruit saplings for each donor). To-date, Charity Crossing volunteers donated 72 whole blood units, 16 double red cell units, 17 platelet units, and 2 plasma units. That's 107 units that may have potentially saved up to 421 Lives.

Do you know, "every 2 seconds, someone in the US needs blood or platelets?" Do you know, "About one in seven people entering a hospital need blood?" Do you know, "a single car accident victim may need 100 units of blood? Please consider donating blood if possible and become someone's hero For more information regarding blood services, you can visit Blood Needs or About Blood.



by Christine Outten and Jay Muthukamatchi

The Dover Community was in great need of help, with everything from food, clothing, blankets, children's items etc. I researched different non-profit agencies, and found Charity Crossings to be a solid and meaningful non-profit. I reached out to Jay to see what we could do to get involved and bring this to our Community. Jay did not hesitate to jump in and help.

My granddaughter and I had the opportunity to volunteer at an event to see how things ran and what the needs of the Communities were. We then decided for sure this was the non-profit to work with. We did our first Community give away on Sunday July 24, 2022, and were amazed at the actual number of families in need, that were extremely grateful for this in Dover.

It is a pleasure to work with Charity Crossing, And all their volunteers who do an outstanding job. We hope to continue this work in our Community for as long as the need is there.



## **Smyrna Event**

by Aarush Goyal

Firstly, I would like to thank you Jay for this opportunity to lead this Wellness Saturday event. I'm a fairly new member of Charity Crossing and you gave me the chance to work hard and help the community. While the event was very fun and productive, there were a comments about the event that I would like to state.

All the CC volunteers did great on Saturday. They all listened well and took criticism well. I can't believe they persevered through the heat and some of the difficult guests. We had great teamwork as well. Those who were tougher and stronger aided in moving and unloading boxes, while those who were better at talking helped communicate with the guests. Everyone had company. There was a nice mix of the older and younger generations. Both generations worked together to serve the community. Many of the boys helped other vendors as well.

I wish we were a little better prepared. I had no plan for lunch, so when Raj bought pizza, that was a lifesaver. We had an inaccurate estimate of the number of people arriving. Thus we had excess donations and a lot of food that was not given away. The picked date also conflicted with other events; many guests were at the fair or other various events across Delaware.



Overall, the event went well, and everyone enjoyed serving the community.

## Fundraiser Opportunities

Charity Crossing is a member of the Amazon Smile program, a great way for you to raise funds for Charity Crossing. To start, 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 to smile.amazon.com or use the regular Prime app on your phone to sign up first.

#### **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 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 similar programs are available!

## **Dollars-for-Doers / Volunteers Grant 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 dollarsfor-hours programs. The process of receiving one of these grants is essentially the same. First, the employee must volunteer with a nonprofit. They then request a grant from their employer, who will verify the number of hours performed, then send a check to the non-profit organization. Some companies offering dollars-for-doers or volunteer grants include Bank of America, TD Bank, Aetna, Microsoft, and many more. Please check with your employer.

#### **Birthday Fundraisers**

Organizing a birthday fundraiser using social media is a great way to raise funds for Charity Crossing. By doing so, you will enjoy a contented feeling, knowing that you played a part in helping those in need on your special day. Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, Twitter, etc., offer features that allow you to raise funds for Charity Crossing. Please check them out.



#### For more information, please contact info@charitycrossing.org

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