

CC MONTHLY

The official newsletter of Charity Crossing

earth breeze

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Donor spotlight - Earth Breeze

Earth Breeze is on a mission to make high-quality, low-waste products that deliver meaningful environmental and social impact for a more sustainable future because small acts now make a huge impact tomorrow. They got their start after seeing how much single-use plastic was used in packaging and the harm it was causing our planet. Did you know that over 700 million plastic laundry detergent jugs end up in our oceans and ecosystems each year?!



Monique Mudie
Program Manager



They knew they could create powerful products all while reducing plastic waste, and so their liquidless Laundry Detergent Eco Sheets came to be! They cut out the unnecessary water and plastic packaging resulting in laundry detergent sheets that come in biodegradable cardboard packaging that is both recyclable and compostable.



Earth Breeze has a passion to leave the world holistically better than they found it. With this goal in mind they have three pillars that support achieving that: reducing waste, regenerating our planet, and redistributing to those in need. They reduce waste through their packaging and products. They have numerous regeneration projects that have resulted in almost 60,000 trees being planted globally and over 8,000 lbs of plastic being removed from our oceans. Finally, they redistribute to those in need most notably through their Buy One, Give Ten Donation Program!

For every package of Earth Breeze Laundry Detergent Eco Sheets purchased, Earth Breeze donates 10 loads of laundry detergent to a partner category of the customers choice! Since the inception of their program in November 2020 they have partnered with over 600+ organizations in the U.S. and around the world to donate over 28 million loads of laundry detergent, helping bring hygiene security to communities everywhere.

“Our Buy One, Give Ten partners are already making positive changes for our world. We are so honored to be able to support them in their mission by providing them with Earth Breeze Laundry Detergent Eco Sheets. At Earth Breeze, we believe that clean clothes and laundry should not be a privilege but something that everyone has access to. By providing this resource it allows not only organizations but the people they support respite from having to source laundry detergent for themselves, thus saving time and money that they are most likely in short supply of. We all deserve the opportunity to have clean clothes, and we all deserve dignity and respect. We have had insights into the incredibly selfless work that they have dedicated their lives to, and we want to share all of this with you.” -Monique Mudie, Buy One, Give Ten Program Manager

The most important relationship in providing access to those in need is with the partners who make up the Buy One, Give Ten program. Truly without them there would be no way to achieve this level of impact in so many communities across the U.S. and beyond. Partnerships like the one found with Charity Crossing are instrumental, especially when they go the extra mile to not only be a resource for the community but an advocate for the environment as well.

Eliminating the burden of cost, delivery/shipment, waste, and even storage space when it comes to laundry detergent makes it just that much easier for Charity Crossing to focus on what really matters, to care for those in need. Eternal gratitude should be given to organizations such as Charity Crossing who, for some, are the sole reason they are able to get the support they need. Finding the intersection between support for our communities and support for the planet helps make sustainability accessible to all, and truly is a step in the right direction for leaving this earth holistically better than we found it.



Inspiration Spotlight: Chrissie, Ruth, Caren

By Jay Muthukamatchi



Meet Chrissie (in the middle), she leads our Dover giveaway location. She recently hurt her feet. Yet, she drove 40 miles in each direction the past Sunday to pick up donations for her clients in Dover.

Meet Ruth (far right). She will lead the new Middletown giveaway location. She is 76. She drives her truck and picks up donations.



Meet Caren Turner. She co-leads the ICH location. She is in her 70s. She drives her truck and picks up donations. I called her to meet me at 7:30 am to pick up food. I called her late in the evening to pick up donations, and she was there. I called her on weekends, and she was there.



Volunteer Spotlight - Gifty Boateng

by Gifty Boateng

My name is Gifty Boateng; I am a nurse and philanthropist. I have been living in Dover, Delaware, since 1999. I have a lovely husband, and two wonderful children, Samuel and Emmanuella. I connected my church, The Apostolic Church International, and Global Ubuntu Impact Foundation to partner with Charity Crossing to serve our communities in need. These initiatives started before COVID-19, which led to the weekly community giveaway in the city of Smyrna location.

My family, Charity Crossing Volunteers, and the church community have overseen the Walmart and warehouse donations pick-up and distribution.

Charity Crossing is impacting communities in Delaware, Maryland, and New Jersey. Donors like Walmart, Amazon, Dots Food, and donors like you, Charity Crossing, can reach the masses.



During one of our weekly services, a mother came in with her three kids to collect household items and food to feed the kids. I saw smiles on the children's faces when loading the car. My heart was filled with joy. These are the reasons why I do what I do.



Volunteer Spotlight - Chetna Sivamurthy

by Chetna Sivamurthy

I, Chetna Sivamurthy, an IT professional & a mom of 2 girls, have always been looking for something more fulfilling. As a child, with the encouragement of my parents, I loved helping people and offering them a better quality of life. I enjoyed being there and doing things for the community-whether in monetary form or kind. I now take pride in teaching and encouraging my children to look beyond themselves and to provide support to those around them in their lives.

Being relatively new to Delaware, I was trying to find opportunities to be able to help others in the community & through a friend, I got introduced to Charity Crossing & which was the changing factor. Charity Crossing has provided me with many opportunities- from clothes to food drives. These opportunities have not only resulted in helping others, but it has emerged from leadership to friendships. It helped hone my communication skills, increase my ability to work in teams, and it helped develop my leadership skills. The biggest advantage has been the acknowledgment of our work by all the smiles & love shared by those who received the donations weekly. Thank you, Charity Crossing, for all these amazing opportunities.



Chetna's favorite quote

“As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands – one for helping yourself, the other for helping others.” – Audrey Hepburn



Volunteer Spotlight - Krishna (KP) Prasad

by Jay Muthukamatchi

Krishna Prasad, his friends fondly call him KP, is an ardent & active volunteer at Charity Crossing since 2018. He is Systems Analyst by profession & lives in Delaware with his wife, Geetha, and son Tanuj.

He believes in volunteering and making a real impact on the needy & strengthening the community. He supported CC's Sock drive for a couple of years by picking up socks from our partner organization. KP was also responsible for food delivery during the COVID pandemic. He was leading CC's Front street location serving food, clothes & PPE items to the needy.

KP is one of the Warehouse leads since its inception & responsible for sorting & distributing donations to serve lead pick-ups. He supported various special events & currently serve as one of the Leads for CC's Glasgow Park monthly event, serving 300+ families every month.

He feels blessed to be part of Charity Crossing & looking forward to volunteering with Charity Crossing.



KP's Favorite Quote

*"Three keys to more abundant living:
caring about others, daring for others,
and sharing with others
- William Arthur Ward"*



Volunteer Spotlight - Ininder Parmar

by Jay Muthukamatchi

Ininder Parmar is a mother of two children and an active Charity Crossing lead. A non-profit organization that provides basic needs to economically disadvantaged members of our community.

Ininder, along with her two children, are active Charity Crossing volunteers. She is the lead volunteer at LJBC, a weekly serve location in Maryland which she founded herself. Essentially establishing the first Charity Crossing location in Maryland, effectively spreading CC's outreach. She also has been assisting the warehouse team with donation collection and sorting since the warehouse's launch. Organizing and running events since her start with her two children in 2020, during the height of COVID-19. This volunteering takes place in diverse community places with groups of designated volunteers and all assigned responsibilities intended to help them understand how to serve the community or comfort themselves on any occasion.



Ininder once described that “Knowledge of the impact that I’ve been able to make through Charity Crossing only motivates me to continue on with volunteering.”

Throughout her tenure at Charity Crossing, Ininder has been an inspiration to volunteers and even members of the community. Helping those develop teamwork, leadership, communication, and being able to engage with their community on a personal level.



Rathinam Family Volunteering Interviews

by Saatvik Kumar

Rahul & Ritika are children of Ranjit Rathinam, who all are Charity Crossing Volunteers who collectively volunteer as a family. Since joining Charity Crossing last year, they have demonstrated much commitment to volunteering, by doubling up on their hours spent volunteering, and being involved with numerous drives and initiatives, primarily the Wilmington serve locations.

The Rathinam Family started to get involved with Charity Crossing in 2021. “Thanks to Shilpa, Rajesh and Gopi for showing us this window of opportunity to serve the community,” says Ritika on behalf of her family. Through the volunteering opportunities provided, the family has been able to make a difference in local communities, which they are grateful for. “An impact I have made as part of CC is serving 100s of underprivileged people in the Wilmington, DE area by serving them new clothes, food, blankets, beverages, and other daily essentials,” says Rahul. “These items assist the underprivileged for their daily needs that they may struggle to obtain.”

There are other opportunities which the family feels that they have been provided through volunteering at Charity Crossing. “Charity Crossing has provided me with many opportunities to learn new values, meet compassionate people that volunteer with me, make a difference in our local communities, and take on challenges,” Rahul says. He also speaks about how they have affected his personal growth. He says, “These opportunities have helped me gain confidence in myself, improve my social skills, and feel proud of my volunteering.”

Volunteering as a family is something that Rahul, Ritika, and Ranjit say makes the experience much better rather than volunteering individually. “Volunteering with my family impacts my bonding and teamwork with my family in a positive way. It is also very fun to volunteer with my family,” Rahul says. Through volunteering together as a family, it not only serves as a positive bonding experience, but it allows the families to connect with other unique volunteers who share the same goal of helping the community.

When volunteering, the family believes that some actions should be done in order to be as productive as possible. Ranjit believes in planning out and sticking to time slots. “I make a plan to volunteer, then I try to stick to the plan,” he says. He also signifies the importance of not missing serves and proper communication with the volunteer group to avoid last minute cancellations. “I make sure I am heard within the group [if unable to attend a serve]; us missing a serve could send 100s of needy empty handed.”



Rahul, Ritika, and Ranjit are consistently making an impact across the work that they do as part of the organization, and they hope to keep increasing their commitment and dedication to volunteering even more in the future.

You can watch the full interview here:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1fkmLVO4EMvbsdEGWu4WjO6562joAfsWB/view?usp=share_link



Stockings for Soldiers

by Tanuj Dontaraju and Aratrika Ghosh

Stocking for Soldiers has impacted the community by making many people who protect our country such as the army, navy, air force and etc. I have heard my self from the people who work there that sometimes people from these branches of the military send letters thanking the organization and the countless number of volunteers that participate in the event. It has also impacted the community from the volunteers side by making them want to take part of this every year to make themselves feel good by taking time out of their day to help the people that protect us and our country. When I had attended last year, I had talked with members from different school, and organizations about how they felt participating in this event, they had also felt very good participating and had told me how they had been participating for years because of the good impact that it has left on them. Stocking for Soldiers also brings many people from different schools and organizations together as we participate, which helps us gain new relationships, which can help with future partnerships, them helping us, or us helping them.



A quick reference guide to our Volunteers

by Rohan Sivva and Jay Muthukamatchi

Here is some information that you need to know:

- Register at <https://charitycrossing.org/register/> (one-time activity)
- Sign up for events at <https://charitycrossing.org/events/> (you need to do this every time you want to serve). You can view the events you registered for at <https://charitycrossing.org/registered-events/> It is hard to find volunteers at short notice. Please avoid last-minute cancellations.
- Record your service hours at <https://charitycrossing.org/vtf/>
- You are welcome to bring your family to serve. However, you must buy volunteer tickets for them when registering for an event. All volunteers' tickets are free.
- A parent or guardian must accompany all minor volunteers.
- Service hours are calculated as follows: actual service hours plus travel hours (travel hours should not exceed 1 hour).
- You may be eligible for Presidential Volunteer Service Awards. Check eligibility criteria here <https://presidentalserviceawards.gov/eligibility>



YOU GUYS ARE DOING
"GOD'S SERVICE", SAID A
COMMUNITY MEMBER



Fundraiser Opportunities

Amazon Smile

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 dollars-for-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

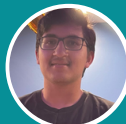
Organizing a birthday fundraiser using social media is a great way to raise funds for Charity Crossing. By doing so, you will enjoy a contented feeling, knowing that you played a part in helping those in need on your special day. Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, Twitter, etc., offer features that allow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

For more information, please contact info@charitycrossing.org

MEET OUR TEAM!



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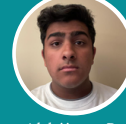
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