The Family FOCCUS Initiative

Future Observers Creating Change Unified in Service

FISCAL YEAR 2021 – PERFORMANCE PROFILE

(As of December 10, 2021)

We focus on making the maximum "*pay it forward*" efforts for our at-risk communities. We are guided by the theme "<u>Be the</u> <u>Change You Want to See in The World</u>." This theme reminds us that the objective of our "*pay it forward*" efforts is to perform simple, daily acts of kindness and community support designed to promote better academic performance and healthier lives for the affected students and their families, while also promoting stronger, happier families and communities.



Academic Partnerships

Our 2021 mission is to champion Hunter Huss High School - given their 2020 statistics from Gaston County Board of Education. <u>https://www.gaston.k12.nc.us/huss</u>

Graduation Rate	76%
Number of Students	1,063
Avg Std Score 2019	17.2
Ranking	426/514
College Readiness	7.8
Free/Reduced Lunch	71.60%

2021 Graduation Support



On April 23, 2021, Hunter Huss High School felt the need to reach out with a Special Request to help a group of seniors who were having a difficult time

purchasing caps and gowns for graduation. Within only three (3) days of receiving the request, due to the generosity of FFI supporters, we exceeded our goal of raising the funds for thirty (30) cap and gowns sets.

Academic Support

From September 2020 – October 2021 we worked with Hunter Huss social worker to provide a spectrum of academic or personal hygiene items based on the social worker surveys.

	Students Impacted	1,988
	Total Items	4,516
•	Toothbrushes/Paste	30
٠	Sweatpants (Girls)	4
•	Meal Cards \$5	25
•	Granola Bars	1,008
•	Bottled Water	2,600
•	Socks (unisex)	40
•	Clipboards	12
•	Kleenex	122
٠	Dry Erase (pens. erasers)	112
•	Dry Erase Boards	36
•	Colored Pencils	72
•	File Folders (3 prong)	78
٠	Notebooks Dividers	45
•	Notebooks	178
•	Hand Sanitizers	32
•	Earbuds for school laptops	112
•	Belts (unisex)	10



Community Outreach has been a vital part of our holistic approach to supporting "atrisk" families. To date, we have provided 20 holiday meal bags (80 family members), 129 Food Lion Feeds boxes (516 family members), 1,039 items for the unsheltered homeless, and 1,947 Domestic Violence Shelter support items. Our partner **Luna Blu Day Spa** donated an additional 47 items to the Shelter.

Holiday Food Insecurity

Unfortunately, many families face a huge economic burden during the holidays, and stress related to food insecurity can get in the way of enjoying the holiday season.

- <u>During the 2020 holidays</u>, we were blessed to be able to provide nutritional support to ten (10) food insecure families of 4 people with *Thanksgiving Meal Bags* and ten (10) families of 4 people with *Christmas Meal Bags*, which equates to eighty (80) family members receiving holiday nutrition.
- <u>During the 2021 holidays</u>, provide nutritional support to one (1) food insecure families of 4 people with *Thanksgiving Meal Bags*.

Gastonia Street Ministry (GSM)

People experiencing homelessness are just that: people. GSM identified poor hygiene as a significant cause of health problems with the unsheltered homeless. FFI provided **816** hygiene items (soap, toothbrushes, feminine pads, deodorant, and socks) to meet their essential needs. Also, **223** nutrition items, and several boxes of gently used clothes.

Food Lion Feeds

<u>FFI raised funding to support food insecure families via Food Lions Feeds</u>. FFI believes no one should have to wonder where their next meal will come from or must make the choice between paying bills or buying food. That is why it is important for FFI to focus on alleviating food insecurity by providing support to nourish our local communities through Food Lion Feeds. *We raised donations to provide 129 meal boxes, multiplied by (family of 4 members), equal 516 individuals impacted.*

Cathy Mabry Cloninger Center Domestic Violence Shelter

"<u>And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up</u>." Galatians 6:9. Janet F. Maddox, as president of The Family FOCCUS Initiative (FFI), interprets this verse to mean, although we may not immediately see the reward for our good doings, they will come. Do not give up! Perseverance is key. Spectrum News1 saw this Christian strength in Janet and on July 24, 2021, they selected her to be featured on their "Everyday Hero" community awareness television series. Working with Food Lion, we were able to raise the resources to support the Cathy Mabry Cloninger Center Domestic Violence Shelter with 55 unique items, across 11 categories, with a total volume of 1,947 supportive individual items. NOTE: Our partner Luna Blu Day Spa donated an additional 47 items to the Shelter.

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