

The Monthly Meal



Henrico Community Food Bank's Newsletter- December Edition



**Give the Gift of a Full Bellies
and Full Hearts this Holiday
Season!**

Why I Invest in Henrico Community Food Bank

Here's a message from our Board Member, Madeline Kelsey about why she chose to support Henrico Community Food Bank.

As the year draws to a close, and many of us feel called to reflect on what we are grateful for.

Henrico Community Food Bank has become a cornerstone of support for families in our area for the past three years and as the year draws to a close and I find myself reflecting, I feel grateful to be part of such an incredible organization. We provide not only food but also hope to those facing hardships. That's really important at this time of year, when families want to share a warm holiday meals together.

If you are able, I hope you will consider making a tax-deductible donation to Henrico Community Food Bank this holiday season.

Food insecurity impacts our neighbors year round and our neighbors depend on us to be there for them in their time of need.

Your gift today will have a tremendous impact in our community.

A year-end contribution of \$25 allows us to feed healthy, shelf stable foods and fresh vegetables, fruit, dairy and protein to your neighbors who need help. We appreciate your contribution this holiday season.

**A \$25 donation
provides healthy
meals to our
neighbors in need
this holiday season!**

Donate below!



Your Food Drive Makes a Big Difference!

Did you know that 45% of the shelf stable food packed into delivery bags comes from food drives big and small?



Food drive donations allow us to serve more in our community and allow us to focus on buying more fresh fruit and vegetables for our neighbors in need!

Thanks to our partners from Capital One, Thomas, Thomas & Hafer LLP, HHHunt, Markel and the County of Henrico who pulled in over 1,800 pounds of food in just over a months time! To find out how you can contribute, visit our website at www.henricocommunityfoodbank.org or call us at 804.616.8534.



Thank you World U.P. Team for Your Commitment to Feeding Henrico

A Message from World U.P. Founder & CEO Liz Dukette

It's been a bittersweet year for the World U.P. team. Over the last 5 years, we've been honored to launch a Mobile Produce Pantry (MPP) which has grown and adapted to the changing requirements of food distribution in Richmond. We are so proud of the work we've been able to accomplish and the people we have gotten to know along the way, specifically our friends at the Henrico Community Food Bank (HCFB).

However, as part of our temporary closure, we have transferred the MPP to HCFB where they will give the pantry some much needed attention and use it to continue to provide access to nutritious food in an equitable and dignified manner to those in need. HCFB has the ability to bridge that access and meet the community where they are. We wish HCFB the best of luck and look forward to the time when we come back and work with them.

We have been in collaboration with World U.P. since our inception in 2021. A MPP was on our wish list as our community distributions ramped up, so to have Liz reach out to us and offer the World U.P. MPP as a donation was a dream come true! While we are sorry to see our partner take a temporary break, we are looking forward to taking the MPP on new adventures. Our shared vision will continue to serve our community. Thank you Liz and the World U.P. team for your generosity!

Sudeshna Das-Menezes, HCFB
Founder & Executive Director



Your Organization Can Host a Food Drive too! A Message from the VCU's Vietnamese Student Association About Why They Give



Visit the HCFB site linked below for more on how to host a food drive!

We are thrilled to have organized a food drive for the Henrico Community Food Bank.

The Vietnamese Student Association (VSA) at VCU is committed to supporting our local community. Our members came together to collect an incredible 178.1 pounds of food, providing 119 meals for those in need!

As an organization that values community and empowerment, we partnered with the food bank in hopes of positively impacting the broader community. Their mission inspired us, and we wanted to contribute in a meaningful way, especially during the holiday season when the need is often greatest.

Happy Holidays from VSA at VCU!

Thank You PenFed Realty for Continuing Your Tradition of Thanksgiving Generosity!



Continuing with their annual tradition, PenFed Realty volunteers came out this Thanksgiving bearing holiday goodies and turkey dinners for twenty-five Henrico's families in need.

The holiday season can be a stressful one for those who are struggling to make ends meet and still want, and deserve, to share a warm celebration with their loved ones- there often just isn't extra money for a big party.



This incredible contribution from PenFed has brightened the holidays and made it a less stressful time many of the folks who count on us to be there for them during their time of need.

And the 2024 Golden Can Award goes to.... our Youth Corps!!

Congrats to all the hardworking students who participated in the Youth Corps **2024 Golden Can Award** competition!

These inspiring young folks were out on a frigidly cold Saturday and collected over **1600 pounds of shelf stable items** for their neighbors in need.

Congrats to **winners Ravi & Kiara Shah and the Moreland Farms** neighbors for collecting the most items!

To learn more and join the Youth Corps, reach out to us at info@henricocommunityfoodbank.org



The Holidays are Just Around the Corner! Give the Gift of Food This Holiday Season!

There are so many ways to give this holiday season and in the new year!

Money!

Make a donation of \$30 or more in recognition of the 30,000 Henrico County residents who are experiencing food insecurity.

Events!

In lieu of a hostess gift, ask your holiday party guests to bring a food or monetary contribution for Henrico Community Food Bank!

Talents

Are you good with numbers, the social butterfly or a social media genius? Join one of our committees, or help us with outreach. You can connect us with your workplace, your professional network, and friends and help us grow our family. Be an HCFB ambassador!

Food!

Use the link below to see our list of most needed items.

A Humbled Thank You to Our Donors

We are so grateful for your contribution!

Financial Donors

Alexis Shannon
Amparita Aponte
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Andy and Debbie Bowles
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Soumita Lahiri
Srabani Banerjee
Stephanie Williams
Tim Jordan
Tomeka Berry-Mason

A Humbled Thank You to Our Donors

We are so grateful for your contribution!

Food Donors

Capgemini
Capital One, Customer
Service & Strategy Team
Capital One, HR Team
Debbie Gentry and Friends
Ernest Atkins
Good Samaritan Helping
Hands Ministry
HHHunt
Hope Church
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Henrico County employee
Linda Wilkinson
Luz Rivas
Manor House Assisted Living
and Memory Care
Markel, IT
Skipwith Elementary School
Thomas, Thomas & Hafer
LLP
VSA @ VCU
Youth Corps Food Drive

Grants

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Give Together Program
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County Of Henrico Grant
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Greater Richmond - Helping
Hands Fund
Community Foundation for a
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World U.P. Foundation