



Dear Supporter of Toco Hills Community Alliance,



To be quite honest, I was not at all sure I would be able to get this newsletter out. No doubt you have seen the news about how inflations, evictions, and benefit cuts have impacted food pantries with much higher usage. We have certainly seen that here, where we are regularly serving over 300 families each week, which is an almost 25 % increase from May of this year.

+25%

In addition to how busy we are in serving our neighborhood, the

food appropriate for the various cultures and dietary needs of those we serve, and that we provide empowering choices when we can.

As Executive Director, my time is quite often outwardly focused as the "face" of Toco Hills Community Alliance in our community. These current challenges, though, have become an "all hands on deck" time, so while I continue to work on relationships and partnerships in the community, I have had to make myself available for troubleshooting, for supporting staff and volunteers, and direct service.

Thus, this newsletter almost did not get written. You all have been such an amazingly supportive community, though, that I wanted to make sure you heard from us - even if it is briefly - to update you about what is going on here, as we strive to serve our community.

And we can only serve our community because of your support. Because of you, we are able to buy the food we need, are able to fund our van to pick up food from our retail partners, are able to have enough volunteers to sort and stock and distribute the food and clothes, and we know that, if we have even more need, you all will come through to make sure our neighbors are served.



Thank you

Thank you for making it possible for families to have enough food for their children, for those with low income to be able to access to nutritious food, for our unhoused friends to have a hot meal.

Thank you so much for making it possible for the single mother who had lost her job to come this week in tears, but leave with a smile.

With gratitude for the support of our community,



Give Now

When you give financially to Toco Hills Community Alliance, your dollars support those in our own neighborhood. Through our partner relations, we are able to make the money we receive s t r e t c h further. For example, we recently were able to buy peanut butter for 9 cents a jar!



If you want to donate or coordinate a drive, here are the most needed items.

The foods we are most in need of are:

- Shelf Stable Milk - Dairy or Non-Dairy
- Healthy Cereal
- Canned Tuna/Chicken/Meat
- "Pop-Top" Cans of Soup/Stew/Chili/Pasta
- Crackers
- Rice
- Beans
- Canned Tomatoes
- Canned Fruit
- Canned Vegetables

(PLEASE NO GLASS JARS)

We currently have a need for these hygiene supplies:

- Diapers Sizes 5, 6, and 7 - URGENT NEED
- Lotion

We very much need

- **clean new or used cloth shopping bags and**
- **rolling suitcases.**

We can also use supplies, such as:

- Non-Latex Gloves (Medium, Large, XLarge)
- Disinfectant Spray

Someone is available to take donations at Toco Hills Community Alliance building on Monday through Friday from 9am until noon. Drive up under the white tent and our volunteers will retrieve the items from your car.



We always need good volunteers who are fully vaccinated (including booster), are physically fit enough to stand, lift, and withstand weather conditions, and who will abide all of the safety precautions, including COVID protocols. If interested, email volunteer@toco hillsalliance.org

Toco Hills Community Alliance

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

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