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Dear Toco Hills Community Alliance Supporters,



As of August 1, I will have had the privilege of being Executive Director of Toco Hills Community Alliance for one year! Time has gone by so quickly and we have accomplished so much, including:

- Increased connection with our community partners
- Strengthened relationship with the Atlanta Community Food Bank
- An annual inspection rating of 116 out of 100 points
- Bringing in and distributing over 1 million pounds of food in 2018
- New Community Guidelines and streamlined procedures
- A standardized process for orienting new volunteers
- Volunteer Appreciation events
- Assisting furloughed government employees
- Meeting our fundraising goal for the Hunger Walk
- New members for the Board of Directors
- New shelving, signs, and website
- New air conditioning for the kitchen

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- Matching donation for AC units in back room
- Grant funding for new floors for the whole building

And there is so very much to look forward to, including:

- Non-functional bathrooms converted to closets
- Whole interior will be painted and then new flooring will be installed
- Possible new community partners
- Continuing to have students from Paidea School, Dekalb County Schools, and Emory Medical School as interns
- Being a learning site for University of North Georgia Nursing School students
- Being a contextual education site Candler School of Theology students

And through all of this, we continue to focus on being neighbors helping neighbors with hot lunches, free groceries, and clothes, in an atmosphere of dignity and respect and care and compassion, striving always to be and do better for those we serve, like:

- the senior citizen who told me that the food we are able to give keeps her from having to choose between food and medicine
- the mom newly in recovery from substance abuse who was so happy to have help building up from rock bottom by making sure she could feed her child
- the young transgender woman of color who expressed appreciation that she could be herself without fear of discrimination here
- the disabled veteran whose check just doesn't stretch and who thanks us profusely every time he comes in, even though we all should be thanking him for his service

These are why we are here. And you all are the ones that make it possible. My faith has been deepened in this year at THCA. Every single time it looks like we will not have enough of something - food, money, volunteers - you all come through and whatever we need shows up.

Thank you so much for allowing me this incredible opportunity and for being supporters and partners in this work.

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**Rev. Dr. Lisa Heilig,
Executive Director**

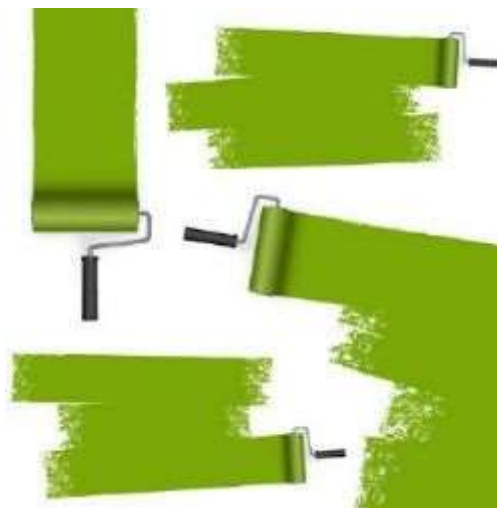


The renovations have begun! We will have a few weeks of some inconvenience as we renovate our space and paint and have new floors installed. But, it will all be worth it when our environment is beautified and is more welcoming, hospitable, and functional.

If you want to help Toco Hills Community Alliance in our renovation, we need help painting!

The dates set up when we will be painting are:

August 9-10 2019
August 15-16 2019
August 23-24 2019
August 30-31 2019
Sept 6-7 2019
Sept 13-14 2019
Sept 20 -21 2019.



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If you or anyone or any group in your faith community is available and willing to help paint, please email Lisa at lisa@tcohillsalliance.org with what day and how many.

Then bring a roller and handle, brush, paint tray if you can, put on your grubby clothes, and come help us get our building ready for the new floors, which will be our next step!

In addition to food, remember that we also need items such as

- paper towels,
- napkins,
- paper cups,
- hand sanitizer,
- bleach,
- wipes,
- ziplock baggies,
- paper lunch bags, and
- to-go containers.



We will take donations of used, clean plastic grocery bags, even as we will welcome donations of cloth/reusable grocery bags as we attempt to decrease plastic use.

And don't forget we are still raising funds to match the \$7,000 an anonymous donor gave us for AC units in the rooms in the back. Donate [here](#) to do so.

Toco Hills Community Alliance has the best supporters - thank you for all you do!

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