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Dear Supporter of Toco Hills Community Alliance,



The month of January is named for the Roman god, Janus, who had two faces, one looking back and one looking forward. Taking a clue from Janus, I want to look back over 2021 and share some facts about it with you, our incredible supporters of Toco Hills Community Alliance. Then I want to look forward into 2022 and share with you at least one upcoming important event.



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we served in 2020 due to the COVID crisis. Now, the crisis is not over, but with various social safety nets put into place and people returning to work, we were able to return to basically our pre-COVID numbers of 2018 and 2019.

What is definitely higher than our pre-COVID numbers is how many pounds of food we distributed, which in 2021 was 749,454 pounds. That means, and this is a number I really want to highlight: each family received an average of 58 pounds of groceries each week!



That means the 50% of families that include children could make sure their children were more prepared for school. That means the 15% homeless people we serve had plenty of food to last them for the week and the 15% seniors we serve did not have to choose between medicine and food. We are strengthening our entire neighborhood.

A few more statistics from 2021. In addition to groceries, we shared:

- 5,812 hot meals with our unhoused friends
- 375 hygiene kits
- 18,809 articles of clothing

And, we definitely shared more than that: resources and referrals, hope and hospitality, care and compassion...

All of it only possible because of your support - each and every one

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multiple hours a week or sent well wishes whenever you could. All of that support added up, so that, together, we made and are continuing to make a positive difference in our community and the world.



As we look forward into 2022, we know the need will continue. Food insecurity is not going away and our economic recovery is fragile... There are also unknowns, like how the discontinuation of the child tax credit will affect our families, the effects of another possible COVID surge, and just the general inability to know the future.

Whatever happens as the year unfolds, we will continue to be Neighbors Helping Neighbors, providing food and service and



respect and acceptance. As we celebrated the life of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King this week, I was reminded again of his deep dedication to ending hunger and poverty for all. I was also reminded that in his history-making "I Have a Dream" speech, he said, "We cannot walk alone. And as we walk, we must make the pledge that we shall march ahead."

Friends, we literally need you to walk with us; we literally need your pledge to help us to march forward into the future.

IN-PERSON + VIRTUAL

HUNGER WALK RUN

MARCH 6, 2022

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Atlanta Community Food Bank Hunger Walk is one of the primary ways we are able to fund our food purchases throughout the year.

Our goal this year is to raise \$18,000. And, if we raise 100% of the money online, the Food Bank will give us credit for 100% of it. If we do not raise it all online, the Food Bank will keep a percentage to cover their administrative costs.



Team THCA has been formed and you are invited to be on the team. Because of the incredible support of this community, last year, our team was in the top 5 teams for fundraising - let's do it again!

This is a great project for a school, a business, a neighborhood group because many people giving even small amounts adds up. And, in fact, you can form your own team and designate the proceeds to go to Toco Hills Community Alliance.

For all of the information, go to <http://engage.acfb.org/goto/TeamTHCA> Join the team and invite others to support you on your walk, or give to Team THCA, or even form your own team for THCA.

Your support made a positive difference last year and it will continue to do so this new year in ways we may not even imagine yet.

Thank you for continuing to be on our team.

In Gratitude for Being in the Fight Together,

Rev. Dr. Lisa Heilig, Executive Director

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

The foods we are most in need of are:

- *Canned Chicken/Tuna/Meat* - **URGENT NEED** - *supply chain issues have caught up to us and we have very little meat*
- Shelf Stable Milk (Dairy and Non-Dairy)
- 'Pop-Top' cans of Soup/Stew/Pasta/Chili
- Canned Fruits and/or Applesauce

(PLEASE NO GLASS JARS)

We very much need **clean used cloth shopping bags**, as well as plastic.

We currently have a need for these hygiene supplies:

- Face Masks
- Lotion
- Lip Balm

We can also use cleaning/office supplies, such as:

- Packing tape
- Non-Latex Gloves (Medium, Large, XLarge)

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.

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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

[Give Now](#)

Did you know Toco Hills Community Alliance has a Facebook page?
Please "like" us at the link below so you can follow our activities.
[Toco Hills Community Alliance Facebook Page](#)

Toco Hills Community Alliance

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

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