

## To the supporters of Toco Hills Community Alliance



## **Dearest Community,**

These past few weeks, no matter who we are, as the compassionate, caring people that we are, we have all been deeply affected by the events of our country and world. Tragedy and racism are all around us, and it is heart-breaking.

We know we do not have all the answers, but we are clear that our commitment is to stand in solidarity with all of our community supporters, partners, volunteers, and clients of color, especially right now, those in the Black community who are exhausted in the struggle for racism to be eliminated.

The statistics show that Black families and other families of color are at higher risk of food insecurity. Our commitment to

with fairness and equity, even, maybe especially, those who do not always receive such treatment in the world.

It also means that, no matter what walk of life we come from, we come together here at Toco Hills Community Alliance in a mission of sharing. Food builds community, and in this community, we try to really see one another in all of who we are and delight in our diversity. Because we know it takes all of us.

And, because of all of us working together, we are continuing to serve record numbers of families, even as the effects of the COVID pandemic continue to keep many people out of work.

You all are a key part of why we are able to do so, as this community, and you all as supporters in our community, have continued to be extremely generous with your donations of money, food, and supplies, as well as your continued encouragement.

Thank you for what you are doing to help us not only give food, but give dignity, respect, compassion, and hope.

Together, we can indeed build a world where are all have food and freedom.

Sincerely,
Rev. Dr. Lisa Heilig, Executive Director
Lynn Pasqualetti, Board President



## MOVING FORWARD IN MIDST OF CRISIS

In addition to the many gifts from our community, due to the efforts of Board Chair, we have been able to secure grants. These grants are allowing us, even in the midst of this crisis, to move forward by, among other things, purchasing new equipment and enhancing our infrastructure.

Due a gift received from the Episcopal Community
Foundation for Middle and North Georgia, we were able to
purchase a brand new stove, new icemaker, and a cooler for
small items in the produce room. This is our beautiful new
stove with 10 burners:



We continue to enhance our efficiency in providing service with our new client registration system that allows us to register outside electronically and our new volunteer management platform that makes scheduling and tracking

With your continued support, we will be able to keep sharing food and compassion for those in need. Even though we apart right now, we are together as live more fully into being Neighbors Helping Neighbors.

Below are some specific ways you can support us.

**THANK YOU!** 

One of the best ways you can support is with your financial gifts. Through our partnership with the Atlanta Community Food Bank, we can buy food for cents on the retail dollar. Through that relationship, we just bought eggs and paid just 7.5 cents a dozen!

Financial gifts allow us to be good stewards of our resources.

Make a Gift Now



We are also continuing to take donations of unopened, unexpired food. We are finding our needs changing from week to week, but a few things that would be really helpful to have more of would be:

"Pop-top" cans of pasta/stew/soup

- Beans
- Soup
- Bottled water

We could also use some additional supplies, such as:

- Size 4, 5, and 6 diapers
- Lysol spray
- Disposable masks
- Shaving cream and razors

We take donations Monday through Friday from 9am to noon, and other times by appointment via emailing us at <a href="mailto:info@tocohillsalliance.org">info@tocohillsalliance.org</a>.



We certainly do love our volunteers! We continue to follow strict safety protocols due to COVID 19, including:

- · Only volunteers and staff in the building
- Volunteers and staff wearing masks and gloves at all times
- Every volunteer and staff having temperature taken
- Distributing food outside only
- · Having no more than 10 working at one time
- Disinfecting surfaces throughout the day
- · Keeping socially distant while working

With fewer people and more procedures, our volunteers keep rising to occasion to serve more families.



And though many of our regular volunteers are in high risk groups and cannot be with us right now, we miss them immensely, even as we know they are supporting us from wherever they are.

Due to the need to limit the number of volunteers in our building, we are not taking on new volunteers right now. When we do take on new volunteers, they will need to be able to lift 25 pounds easily, be in a low risk group, follow all protocols, and be flexible. If you are interested in volunteering in the future, please email jacky@tocohillsalliance.org.

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

<u>Toco Hills Community Alliance Facebook Page</u>

## **Toco Hills Community Alliance**

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