Our Mission is to lead and engage the community in the fight against hunger and poverty. Providing help, creating hope.

Arlington Charities

NEWSLETTER

Holiday 2019

Stories of Help & Hope

Our clients share their stories and how Arlington Charities helped them.

Syble Vandenbosch has been coming to Arlington Charities for close to twenty years and she has shared the experience with her siblings, children, and grandchildren as well. Syble has been through a lot in her life including battling throat cancer from second-hand smoke, losing two of her four children, and dealing with friends and family members battling drug addictions. However, she has great support groups at West Community Church and Arlington Charities. Syble asserts that Arlington Charities has helped her during times when she couldn't even walk from the chemo by delivering to her house and helped her pick specialty foods when her diet was restricted. Beyond offering physical help, Syble says she can count on the staff and volunteers at Arlington Charities to take the time to listen to her, pray with her, or even just give her a hug. In fact, her favorite part of coming to Arlington Charities is the people.

Outside of receiving help at Arlington Charities, Syble enjoys helping with her daughter's roller derby. She also likes to give back to the community herself. Whenever she can, Syble likes to volunteer at Arlington Charities herself and send volunteers from West Community Church over to Arlington Charities. Every time she has leftover food that she doesn't need from Arlington Charities, she will donate it back or she will cook extra food for our homeless lunch program.

Stephanie Jurgens has worked in the Arlington ISD Student Outreach Services for Families in Transition for ten years. She has been shopping at Arlington Charities for the same amount of time, but not for herself. Families in transition is an AISD program for children in the district that meet the criteria for being homeless. In this case, homeless means not living with a legal guardian, not living at a fixed residence (such as a family staying with another family), or living in a motel, car, or tent. Stephanie will refer families to local services like Arlington Charities or shop there on their behalf if they do not have transportation or their schedule does not permit. Outside of her job, Stephanie loves to cook for her family.

Stephanie loves Arlington Charities because it allows the "autonomy for clients to pick out their own food." There is an abundance of choices so clients can get what they like and even avoid any food allergens if they have any. Staff and volunteers always greet clients with a smile and the "compassion is evident." Stephanie encourages new and existing clients to not be afraid and to ask the staff "if you saw something you really need or if you need extra help. A lot of times clients are afraid to speak up for themselves but can find a great new resource once they do."

Holiday 2019

Some words from our Executive Director

Dear Friends.

Hope for the Holidays. That is what this time of year is about at Arlington Charities. Thankfully AC is surrounded by a caring community of churches, companies, organizations, and individuals that step up to provide that hope. Many have told me that they cannot stand the thought of anyone missing a meal, especially a holiday meal. With everyone's support, we will ensure that hundreds of families continue their traditions this holiday season.

As you read our client stories of hope, you see our impact. Each gesture we offer can change someone's life trajectory. But while we are making great strides, we are not reaching everyone in our community that needs help. Please stand with us as we work to include every person in our community in the tradition of celebrating around the table.

I have great hope for this holiday season, and hope for a future where everyone can participate in the celebration – where everyone can hold onto the traditions they value so greatly. Because of you, we continue to Provide Help and Create Hope to those in need.

Happy Holidays,

Deborah Coppola
Executive Director

Volunteer Story

Arlington Charities volunteers share their experiences, enthusiasm, and tips for new volunteers.

Peggy Uribe has been volunteering and giving to Arlington Charities for 22 years. As one of our longest standing volunteers and donors Peggy has seen the changes firsthand that giving can create. For example our "client choice pantry," which allows clients to shop for their own food, used to be pre-packaged bags. Our senior program, which transports mobility impaired seniors to shop and socialize at our pantry via a partnership with handi-tran, used to be a delivery service with pre-packaged meals.

Peggy is a constant advocate for A.C. and would definitely encourage others to volunteer. Whenever friends have items they no longer need, Peggy always encourages them to donate them to Arlington Charities. Whether it is a acquaintance that is moving and has a surplus of sheets and comforters or an American Airlines flight attendant who has way too many airline lotions, Peggy believes there is always someone who could use these items.

Giving Thanks in Abundance

This year we were absolutely blown away to receive around 9,000 pounds of donated food for our annual Thanksgiving Distribution. Thank you to all who donated!

-St. Barnabas United Methodist Church donated 2,369 pounds of food, $1,630 to purchase turkeys, and 157 monogrammed bags for our clients to shop with.

-Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church donated 485 pounds of food.

-The Pantego Lions Club donated 2,266 pounds of food.

-First Presbyterian Church donated 2,912 pounds of food.

-Covenant United Methodist Church donated 193 pounds of food.

-New World United Methodist Church donated 1,005 pounds of food.

-West Ministries donated 78 pounds of food.

-Cruise for Food donated 414 pounds of food.

Help For the Holidays

For every donation made during the holiday season, an anonymous donor will donate the same amount so we can double our impact!!
There is no limit to what this donor will double.

Provides 250 meals for our clients.

Provides 500 meals for our clients

Provides 1000 meals for our clients.

On The Horizon

Ethan Allen: Under the Mistletoe
Benefiting Arlington Charities
December 13th: 5 pm - 8 pm
Ethan Allen: Arlington Location

Holiday Distribution Setup
December 14th: 8 am - 1 pm
Arlington Charities

Holiday Food Distribution
December 16 & 17th: 9 am - 4 pm
Arlington Charities

Holiday Toy Distribution
December 18th: 8:30 am - 1 pm
Arlington Charities

Awaken Ensemble: Holiday Concert
Benefiting Arlington Charities
December 22nd: 4 pm - 5 pm
First United Methodist Church

Help and Hope
Celebrity Chef Showcase
April 11th, 2020: TBD
Arlington Museum of Art

Arlington Charities

HOLIDAY CLOTHING & TOY DONATIONS

We Need Your Help!

Arlington Charities is seeking holiday donations in order to brighten the holidays of families throughout Arlington:

- -Toys for ages 0-12.
- -Coats for Kids & Adults
- -Pajamas for Kids & Adults
- -Winter Hats and Beanies
- -Winter Gloves and Mittens
- -Socks and Underwear

Bring Donations To:
Arlington Charities
811 Secretary Drive
Arlington, TX 76015
M-F: 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM

*Last day to donate is December 9th

This year, we provided Thanksgiving Food to over 480 Families!!!

Thank you to all the donors and volunteers who made it possible.

Arlington Charities

811 Secretary Drive
Arlington, TX 76015

www.arlingtoncharities.org

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Arlington Charities wishes you and yours a Happy Holidays and is grateful for your support in creating happy holidays for those who are struggling in our community.

Together we Provide Help and Create Hope!

*The services provided by Arlington Charities, Inc. are made possible in part through a Community Development Block Grant from the City of Arlington through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.