

OUR MISSION: To build self-sufficiency and prevent homelessness and hunger in our community by providing emergency assistance and enrichment programs.

ALL HANDS

NFCC NEWS MAGAZINE

Sending Kids Back to School

School may be out for summer, but we are only a few weeks away from the start of the next school year. The beginning of a new school year



brings with it excitement and anticipation. New teachers, friends or even a new school. It also brings with it a sense of normalcy for these children, whose world has been anything but normal for the last few months during the pandemic. But, for the families NFCC serves, the beginning of a school year brings stress and dread. Already tight and stretched budgets, can't afford a new backpack or the list of required supplies. Parents stress about sending their children back unprepared. Students worry about being the only kid in class without the supplies they need.

Help us make sure every child in our community goes back to school this year with the supplies they need to be successful.

NFCC's annual back to school drive will be a little different this year. Instead of donating backpacks and school supplies separately, we are asking that individuals and organizations donate backpacks already filled with the required supplies for elementary, middle or high school. This is a great project for faith, business or civic organizations to do in smaller groups.

Visit **nfcchelp.org/back-to-school-program** to find out how you can help! Sign up today so we can collect all filled backpacks by the end of July!



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Dear Friends,

As I reflect on the senseless deaths of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor and so many others, I am distraught, outraged and concerned.

I know you all are concerned as well. I will never fully understand the weight of being a person of color in our country. However, I know that I need to educate myself on how I can better be a part of

the solution for equality and justice. We must do better.

The recent events in our country are concerning to us as an organization. NFCC was founded on the values of collaboration, compassion, dignity and inclusion. Every day we live out these values as we serve individuals of every age, gender, race and religion. Last year, Black families made up 35% of the families NFCC served.

As Americans, "we hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

I ask that we all take time to listen and take extra care to treat others with kindness and compassion. We need to work together to address these issues so we can give a voice to those who have been unheard. We cannot serve our families by sitting silently on the sidelines.

I look forward to our work together to make a positive impact in the lives of every person who seeks help in our community.

Hallym. Josh Holly M. York

Executive Director North Fulton Community Charities

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Send your Donation in the Enclosed Envelope Donate Online at NFCCHelp.org/donate

Ripple Effect of COVID-19

At NFCC, we are continuing to see the ripple effects of COVID-19. Many of those affected were already living paycheck to paycheck and their setbacks will take many more months to recover.

"Melissa," a single mom of two daughters, recently came to NFCC for the first time. "Melissa" had been getting by with her government job despite a lack of child support from her ex-husband. Then COVID-19 hit and her two daughters were sent home to finish the school year. It was then she found out her older daughter was failing and would most likely have to repeat a grade.

Knowing she needed to do everything she could for her daughter, "Melissa" used all her vacation time and took a short leave of absence to get her daughter back on track. It worked! "Melissa" was able to help homeschool her daughter and she will advance next year. However, the absence drained her savings and when she went back to work, the three week wait period until she would receive her paycheck was just too much for her to bridge on her own.



Out of options, she reached out to her church who referred her to North Fulton Community Charities. Thanks to our generous donors, we were able to help pay the rent preventing her and her daughters from being evicted. "Melissa" did get back to work with a stable home where her daughter can continue to thrive.

If you'd like to help, send your donation in the enclosed envelope or donate online at NFCCHelp.org/donate.

*Names have been changed to protect privacy.





LexisNexis Risk Solutions Technology Lab ClexisNexis

LexisNexis® Risk Solutions has committed \$300,000 to NFCC to establish the LexisNexis Risk Solutions Technology Lab.

LexisNexis Risk Solutions shares a commitment to finding ways that help solve community needs. The company's commitment to NFCC is a practical and effective way to guide families in the community toward self-sufficiency by helping to remove some of the barriers that lead to crisis and keep families mired in poverty.

"In light of COVID-19 and the dramatic increase in requests for services NFCC has received, we feel this investment is needed now more than ever. It offers us a way to live our company values, support our local community and neighbors, and elevate our partnership with NFCC to a new level. We hope other businesses will follow our example," said Monica Garrett, Director, Community Relations, LexisNexis Risk Solutions.

• In the first 90 days after COVID-19 hit our community, NFCC requests for help almost doubled. We have responded by providing over \$500,000 in direct financial assistance to keep families stably housed. In addition, we provide weekly groceries for our families from the food pantry.

COVID-19 UPDATE

- NFCC Assistance, Food Pantry and Education Services remain online only.
- Food Pantry donations are being accepted Monday-Thursday from 12 - 3pm.
- The NFCC Thrift Shop remains temporarily closed. After years of dealing with roof

issues that caused electrical and HVAC problems, NFCC started the already scheduled repairs and updates during the shutdown. While this does delay our reopening, we are excited that when we do reopen, it will be an updated and better functioning store for our customers.

New NFCC Board Members

NFCC's Board of Directors welcomed three new members and elected new officers for the 2021 fiscal year.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS INCLUDE:

Kali Boatright, President and CEO of the Greater North Fulton Chamber of Commerce Misty Fernandez, Area Manager at Georgia Power Company Heather Jallad, Associate Pastor at Mount Pisgah United Methodist Church

I am honored to be serving as co-president of the NFCC Board of Directors with Mary Good," said John Carpentier. "Over the last year, Mary has helped lead NFCC through the transition to a new executive director and the beginning of a global pandemic, which brought with it multiple challenges and a surge of new families needing assistance. I look forward to working with Mary as we continue to plan for the future expansion of NFCC programs and services to better serve our community."

FY 2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS John Carpentier, Co-President Mary Good, Co-President Kathryn Albright, Vice President Adwoa Awotwi, Treasurer Mike Hampton, Secretary

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Food for Families

Throughout COVID-19, the NFCC Food Pantry has remained the first line of defense for those struggling financially in our community. In the first 90 days, the NFCC Food Pantry served over 1,100 different families. Families can order one time per week and choose as many of the 60 items on our online order form as they need.

Borden Dairy donated 250-) 500 gallons of milk each week during the month of June for our families.

Local grocery stores and restaurants continue to participate in the Food Recovery Program to reduce waste and get good food in the hands of those that need it.





▲ Food Pantry Director Melody Fortin with a food pantry order before it is bagged. In addition to these non-perishable items, the family will receive milk, fresh produce and deli items when they pick up their order.



Together, we can help!

NFCCHelp.org