

End Hunger Durham Proposal to Durham County for COVID19 Response

Funds requested from Durham County: \$60,000 for 3 meals and informational flyers delivered weekly to 900 low-income seniors, a highly COVID-vulnerable population, to: a) mitigate the risk of virus exposure through entering public transportation and grocery stores to obtain food, b) reduce risk of mental health stresses from isolation without support, c) reinforce guidance regarding the need to stay home and critical aspects of COVID-19 prevention, symptoms, and responses.

The funds will also benefit 3 local Black-owned catering businesses, helping to keep them viable while they serve community neighbors in need during the coronavirus suppression. The project would help up to 20 employees keep their jobs.

Project Description: End Hunger Durham (EHD), a sponsored program of Durham Congregations In Action, in partnership with local caterers, is managing the delivery of healthy delicious meals, informational flyers, to 900 low-resource seniors, living in 16 subsidized housing communities in Durham. Where possible we also do reassurance calls. *Funds are needed to extend the weekly deliveries of 3-meal kits for an additional month.*

Strict sanitation procedures are in place with the caterers. The 3 meals in a bag are received and distributed to individual apartments by resident volunteer leaders or managers to avoid introducing persons from the outside. Resident-volunteers are trained in protocols for social distancing and hygiene and receive masks and gloves.

Collaborating Partners

Southern Harvest Caterer has donated over 2000 meals to get this project off the ground.

Bowick's Ark, Piri, and Zwelli's caterers are Black-owned businesses

Community Health Coalition, founded by and for African-Americans to reduce health disparities, helps locate contacts in various locations.

Durham Housing Authority staff have helped identify housing units and contacts.

Duke Benefits Enrollment Center helps recruit and train volunteers to make calls.

Senior PharmAssist has helped train volunteers to make reassurance calls.

Lead Organizations: [Durham Congregations In Action](#) (DCIA) is a multi-faith anti-poverty non-profit with a membership of 50 diverse faith-communities in the Durham area. It has been organizing responses to hunger and homelessness in Durham since 1969. [End Hunger Durham](#) (EHD), has been developing community food system strategies, building capacity of grassroots food pantries, and organizing improved food access for seniors in poverty for the past five years. Since March 21, it has delivered 5,343 meals to 933 seniors.

Budget: 3 meals/wk including food, preparation, delivery, logistics, bookkeeping, info flyer, and check-in calls is **\$16.67/person. For 900 recipients = \$15,000/week x 4 weeks = \$60,000.**