

Announcing how we'll be Nourishing Change in our community in the next 6 months!

In January, we will be collecting change to improve access to healthy, fresh food to those in need

* Objective: To raise $7,000 to provide basic supplies for a community gardening program for refugees
* Partner: Bridge Refugee Services

*Bridge Refugee Services provides opportunities for refugees to rebuild their lives after suffering persecution, so they can become productive and contributing members of our community. The Community Gardening Program helps refugees to grow their own food and participate in local food entrepreneurship.*

In February, we will be collecting change to improve access to fresh, healthy food to those in need

* Objective: To raise $7,000 to provide fresh and healthy foods to the Beaumont, Lonsdale, and Mechanicsville communities
* Partner: Wesley House Community Center

*Wesley House’s 114 years of service has always included a focused the emergent needs of its community. They provide shelf stable foods as well as fresh produce, dairy products, meats, and household necessities in their food pantry and mobile delivery service, serving an average of 500-600 individuals each month.*

In March, we will be collecting change to give food to the hungry

* Objective: To raise $7,000 to provide hot meals and basic necessities to the homeless and marginalized in our community
* Partner: A Place at the Table

*A Place at the Table provides hot meals to over 200 people each week. They strive to enhance the self-worth and dignity of those they serve by providing basic needs of food, water, simple necessities, and clothing. Their goal is to assuage hunger - making a difference, one meal at a time.*

In April, we will be collecting change to provide food for children

* Objective: To raise $7,000 to feed children attending a free literacy and empowerment program
* Partner: East Tennessee Freedom Schools

*East Tennessee Freedom Schools has three foci: 1) maintaining or improving reading comprehension and critical thinking skills; 2) providing broadening experiences that build socio-emotional capacity and other academic skills; and 3) strengthening self-esteem and civic engagement muscles.*

In May, we will be collecting change to rescue native plants

* Objective: To raise $7,000 to deploy rescue operations to remove native plants prior to a site being developed or logged
* Partner: Native Plant Rescue Squad

*Native Plant Rescue Squad is dedicated to the conservation and restoration of the rich diversity of native flora in East Tennessee with the overall goal of increasing the ecological health of our region.*

In June, we will be collecting change to provide care for homeless senior animals

* Objective: To raise $7,000 to support the rescue of older pets that need a new home
* Partner: Spay It Forward East Tennessee

*Spay It Forward of East Tennessee seeks to accept owner surrenders of pets that can no longer be cared for, with a special emphasis on senior animals in East Tennessee. It is a small all-breed rescue and community support organization that works to improve the lives of pets and the people that love them.*

Over the past 6 months we received applications from a wide variety of organizations doing important work for our community. **If your application was not selected, we strongly encourage you to re-apply.**  Past recipients are eligible to re-apply as well.

If your application is unclear or incomplete it cannot be considered, so please take care.

To discuss tips on creating a successful Nourishing Change application, please contact Jacqueline Arthur, General Manager at j.arthur@threeriversmarket.coop. For more information, visit <http://www.threeriversmarket.coop/about-three-rivers-market/nourishing-change/>