

## St. Mary's Episcopal Church

### Volunteer Opportunities in Martin and St. Lucie Counties (as of 5/6/20)

*All of us are eager to find ways to help the most vulnerable residents get through this challenging time. While 10% of Martin County households are living in poverty, another 28% are considered ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed). They're living one missed paycheck away from being unable to meet their most basic needs, like housing, health care and food. Local food banks report their demand has more than doubled in recent weeks.*

*While St. Mary's has our own ministries, we also strongly support community partners who have programs and infrastructure we can't duplicate. If you are interested in volunteering, especially during this time of pandemic and economic hardship, the following are a list of local nonprofits seeking volunteers.*

- **House of Hope (Martin):**
  - Volunteer individually or with a group, once a week or once a year
  - Help sort and process donations at the Food Distribution Center on Bonita St.
  - Help with safe, curbside delivery of groceries at the Food Pantry
  - Contact Lauren Mustelier, Manager of Volunteers, at (772) 286-4673 ext. 1004 or [lauren@hohmartin.org](mailto:lauren@hohmartin.org)
  
- **Council on Aging of Martin County - Kane Center (Martin):**
  - Deliver Meals on Wheels: Call Curletha at (772) 223-7829
  - Shopping assistance for seniors: Call (772) 223-7843
  - Donate nonperishable food items: Drop off at the Kane Center, 900 SE Salerno Road in Stuart between 11am-3pm, Monday-Friday
  
- **Love and Hope in Action – LAHIA (Martin)**
  - With only 5 staff members, volunteers are critical to meeting the mission to demonstrate the love of Jesus Christ in Martin County by providing an opportunity for a productive life to the homeless and indigent through helping them meet their spiritual and basic physical needs.
  - Kitchen support for take-out meals (servers, dishwashers, prep cooks)
  - 9am breakfast and 5pm dinner, Monday-Friday plus 9am breakfast and 12pm lunch on Saturday
  - Call (772) 781-7002. 1760 SE Salerno Road, Stuart
  
- **ARC of Martin County**
  - Advocates for the rights and full community participation of all people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, working to build a future of inclusive work, play, worship, community and travel
  - Operates 9 group homes in Stuart
  - Currently working on a beautification project for an outdoor space for after school programs
  - Call (772) 283-2525

- **United Way of Martin County**
  - Works with individuals to understand their skills and interests and matches them with nonprofits seeking volunteers
  - Visit [www.unitedwaymartin.org](http://www.unitedwaymartin.org) and click on the link for Volunteer Today!
  
- **Treasure Coast Food Bank (St. Lucie)**
  - Largest hunger-relief organization on the Treasure Coast and member of Feeding America, serving 100,000 individuals each week
  - Partner of St. Mary's for Backpack Buddies at JD Parker school
  - Volunteers needed to sort and pack food
  - Check the website [www.stophunger.org](http://www.stophunger.org) to see available shifts and safety requirements
  
- **Mustard Seed Ministries (St. Lucie)**
  - Provides assistance to individuals and families struggling to make ends meet
  - Food pantry is operating in both locations (Port St. Lucie and Fort Pierce), Monday - Thursday
  - Food bags provided at curbside, including fresh produce from their container garden
  - Contact via website at [www.mustardseedslc.org](http://www.mustardseedslc.org)
  
- **GraceWay Village (St. Lucie)**
  - Feeds individuals and families with free meals provided Tuesday-Thursday, Saturday and Sunday from 5:00-6:00pm, currently offered in drive through fashion in Fort Pierce
  - When in session, the Sunday night meal begins with an optional Bible study meeting
  - Provides homeless families with a temporary home and pathway to self-sufficiency
  - Call (772) 925-3074
  
- **The Salvation Army (Martin, St. Lucie and Okeechobee Counties)**
  - Wide variety of volunteer needs in the soup kitchen, food pantry and donation pick-up
  - Fill out the volunteer application online at [www.salvationarmyflorida.org](http://www.salvationarmyflorida.org)
  
- **Boys & Girls Clubs of Martin and St. Lucie**
  - While locations are currently closed, they will need volunteers and mentors when re-opened
  - For the safety of kids, volunteers must complete an application form, available online
    - Martin County: [www.bgcmartin.org](http://www.bgcmartin.org)
    - St. Lucie County: [www.bgcflc.org](http://www.bgcflc.org)

*If you know of other nonprofits who are actively seeking volunteers, please contact Maureen Cotter, Rector's Warden, at [maureen@cotterhealthcare.com](mailto:maureen@cotterhealthcare.com) or [memcotter@gmail.com](mailto:memcotter@gmail.com)*