HIMISSION ARLINGTON® HILL MISSION METROPLEX

January-February 2021 Mission Arlington / Mission Metroplex Newsletter Vol. 21, Issue 01

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TILLIE BURGIN

Writing this note to you is always special to me. I pray that this newsletter helps you know better how your support positively impacts people's lives, and the ways God often uses Mission Arlington® to help people in need receive authentic help, find significance, and to experience God's love. Your contributions of clothes, food, things, money, and resources of all kinds are an indicator of God at work through you.

The number of volunteers were down significantly in 2020, and we have missed you. A young mom and her daughters returned to help this week. I heard the little girls say, "Mom, it feels like we are back home." When you come to help, or when you send a check, or when you just stop by and wave and give a "keep up the good work" you encourage us.

A family of 8 came in to volunteer this week. This is their story: "We escaped from the flooding in Louisiana with only our car and 6 children. Everywhere we stopped we were told, 'Go to Mission Arlington".' We

drove in one afternoon and piled out of the car needing food, rest, prayer, gasoline and HOPE. We found it all at Mission Arlington[®]. We recommend you to everyone. Today we are bringing you some things to help someone else, and we want to stay and volunteer so we can share with others the love and hope we found here."

HELP AND HOPE IN THE NEW YEAR



2020 was a difficult year for everyone, but especially for many of our neighbors.

So many had never had to ask for help before.

Day after day, you lightened their load. We were constantly amazed by your generosity.

In 2020, we adapted to Covid-19 protocols, and flexed to meet people's needs wherever possible. By God's grace, **we never closed**.

We know that anyone can hand out provisions, but our heart is to care for people in a way that communicates they are important to us and to God - receiving both help and hope. We are truly looking forward to 2021.

CONGREGATIONS KEEP GROWING

Mission Arlington® hosts Bible studies in 300° locations across our community, with several thousand in attendance each week.

Even when these groups couldn't gather in 2020, our volunteer Bible study leaders continued to visit, and we reached more people than before.

The pictures here were taken at a "Family Art" night from one of our congregations which meets in a home in central Arlington.





2020 FOOD NEEDS INCREASED 69 PERCENT

BUT, YOU RESPONDED TO MEET PEOPLE'S NEEDS.





84,637 families received food from Mission Arlington[®] in 2020, a **69 percent** increase over 2019. Because you gave, we were able to provide a 3-5 day supply of food to people **309,822 times**. We are grateful for you!

THOUSANDS RECEIVE CHRISTMAS GIFTS



27,033 children (6,487 families) received free Christmas gifts. **3,500** children received bikes. The Christmas story was shared in six languages. **954 adults** made spiritual commitments of some kind. You provided the gifts!

VOLUNTEERS RETURNING IN 2021



NHS students from South Grand Prairie HS organized our food pantry. VOLUNTEER HOURS: 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. Monday-Saturday. **JOIN US!**

SUPPORTING ACADEMIC SUCCESS



Afterschool Programs - Helping students succeed academically has been an integral part of our mission for 34 years. Volunteer teachers led afterschool programs in 30 locations last year, averaging 922 students a week. We love seeing students succeed.



School on Campus - Mission Arlington® established a school on our campus this past year to support the educational needs for children of our staff during the pandemic. Fourteen (14) students participated, ranging in age from Kindergarten to Senior High.