



THRIVE Peninsula Times



Helping Families Across the Peninsula

13195 Warwick Boulevard, Unit 2C, Newport News, VA 23602 www.thrivepeninsula.org 757-877-6211 July 2017

MISSION

To Encourage, Educate and Empower our neighbors in need toward transformed and self-sustaining lives.

HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday-Thursday: 10am-5pm
Call to schedule an after hours donation drop-off

FOOD PANTRY HOURS

Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday: 1pm-3pm
Tuesday: 10am-2pm



www.facebook.com/thrivepeninsula

Free Legal Aid Consultations



On Thursday, July 20 the Legal Aid Society of Eastern Virginia will have staff at THRIVE headquarters to meet with clients in need of legal services. Legal Aid is a non-profit organization that serves low income populations and offers services for free. From 1-3pm, people can walk in the THRIVE office for free legal advice and apply for representation. Legal Aid helps people with predatory payday and title loans. In addition, the organization offers free legal services to eligible persons in civil matters pertaining to family law, housing, consumer law, state and federal benefit appeals, elder law, unemployment benefits, and other areas such as obtaining birth certificates, regaining driving privileges, bankruptcy, and much more. For more information or for a digital flyer, contact THRIVE.

Current Volunteer Needs

Contact Angela: 757-877-6211 ext. 3 or angela@thrivepeninsula.org

Front Desk Assistant – 2 hours per week:

Onsite at Outreach Center, this frontline encourager, customer service representative and telephone receptionist welcomes guests, helps facility pantry services for that day, and assists with light computer work. Personal, courteous, energetic demeanor with professional office/telephone etiquette recommended.

Food Pantry Sorting – Mondays (9:30am – 11am) Team of 2: Each Monday morning THRIVE receives a load of fresh food products from Food Lion. Items need to be weighed in and sorted.

Phone Application Help – 2 hours per week or 4 hours per month: Are you compassionate and a good listener? If so THRIVE needs you! Help take applications for assistance over the phone and provide appropriate resource referrals for families who are in crisis. Training provided. Assistance is needed on Tuesday or Wednesday mornings.



Volunteers help sort pantry food items.

Food Pantry Most Needed Items

July 2017

- Jelly
- Rice
- Soup





Volunteer Spotlight: Jim Hackett



Jim Hackett started volunteering at DUCO (now THRIVE) at the end of 2012 when he met Maria Cory at his church, Warwick Memorial UMC. She was aware that Jim had recently retired and

informed him of the volunteer opportunities at DUCO. Jim jokes that he started with the title “custodian” and later graduated to “facilities representative” and now works with other volunteers on the “clean team” to keep the headquarters looking sharp. The team follows a checklist that includes cleaning floors, dusting, emptying trash, and other duties. When called upon Jim also serves as an “as needed volunteer” and does a host of other tasks as requested by THRIVE staff. Some tasks include helping with the food pantry, and moving furniture, but other tasks are more unique.

Jim once went “shopping” at a closing dollar store and helped clean out remaining product donations. Another time, Jim and three others picked up 1400 pounds of potatoes from the United Methodist Conference and re-packaged them in five pound bags to be distributed to families.

In addition to his THRIVE volunteer duties, Jim is an usher at his church. He also helps with the church’s peanut project by purchasing raw peanuts, cooking them, and putting them in jars to sell as a fundraiser for the church’s charities. Last year, Jim and a neighbor adopted a garden plot at Lee Hall Mansion where they grow vegetables. Jim says volunteering for THRIVE is a “feel-good” effort that contributes in a small way to the difficult jobs performed by the staff. He encourages others who can spare a couple of hours a month to volunteer to assist THRIVE in its important missions. Thank you Jim for everything you do!



Client Testimony



Michael Wilson* and his wife have a nine-year old daughter with acute health issues that have necessitated frequent hospital stays. Time off from work and reduced income recently led to a critical financial situation, and the couple was

unable to pay their rent. They were referred to THRIVE from their church. Not only did Michael receive rent assistance, and food from the pantry, but he also received one-on-one budget counseling. Michael

credits the THRIVE budget counselor with getting his family’s finances in order. He says he now can identify his needs—the expenses he has to make each month—as opposed to his wants—things that aren’t needs and can be put off.

He and his wife have made a commitment to stop smoking and are on a program to gradually cut down to zero cigarettes, adding more than \$200 a month to the family budget.

Michael attributes his ability to turn his life around to help from THRIVE and his deep religious belief. Without this assistance, Michael says his family would be living on the street.

* Name has been changed to protect client’s privacy

Shop and Support!

Want an easy way to support THRIVE? Say no more! If you shop at Kroger or shop on Amazon.com, you can link your account to THRIVE so a percentage of each purchase benefits the organization. Here’s how to link your accounts: **Amazon:** Visit smile.amazon.com and sign into your account. Click on Your Account at the top of the page and select your charity. Search for THRIVE Peninsula and to link your accounts.

For future purchases, shop using smile.amazon.com. **Kroger:** Visit www.kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow, sign in, and select THRIVE Peninsula (#91221) as your charity.