



THRIVE Peninsula Times



Helping Families Across the Peninsula

13195 Warwick Boulevard, Unit 2C, Newport News, VA 23602 www.thrivepeninsula.org 757-877-6211 May 2018

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

Mon, Wed, and Thurs: 1-3pm
Tuesday: 10am-2pm



@thrivepeninsula

Will you be one of 50?

give
Local
757!
MAY 8

Give Local 757 is a community-wide giving day hosted by the Peninsula Community Foundation to benefit local nonprofits. The fifth annual giving day is Tuesday, May 8, from midnight to midnight. THRIVE Peninsula is one of the nonprofits that benefits from designated donations.

Each year the event sponsors several incentive competitions during the 24-hour giving period that allow organization to win cash prizes. This year,

THRIVE has chosen to focus on two contests. 1) Receive the most unique donations between the hour of 9am– 10am. 2) Get 50 donors to give \$50+. These two contest could help THRIVE win up to \$1750 in prize money!

Donated funds will help THRIVE provide Peninsula families with emergency resources during their time of crisis. Donations will be accepted throughout the 24-hour period, and must be \$10 or more. To participate, donate at: www.givelocal757.org/thrivepeninsula.

Become a Master Financial Educator Volunteer

The 20-hour course will train participants to effectively help families build their financial capacity and work to reach their personal goals. This class is a great fit for church leaders who want to offer financial coaching to their members or for those interested in becoming a financial coaching volunteer for THRIVE. Volunteers are currently needed to provide long-term and short-term coaching to families facing distress. The cost of the class is \$75/person but is free of charge when you plan to volunteer at THRIVE.

The classes will be held from 9am to 3pm, including one hour for lunch, on four days: Class One, Monday, June 4; Class Two, Friday, June 8; Class Three, Monday, June 18; and Class Four, Friday, June 22.

Classes are held at the Virginia Cooperative Extension, 739 Thimble Shoals Blvd. Suite 1009 Newport News, VA 23606. If you are interested in participating, please call Angela York at 757-877-6211 x3 no later than May 21.

Open Late First Tuesdays



THRIVE Peninsula will open it's offices on the first Tuesdays of each month, from 5-7pm, for financial and career coaching. The evening hours will allow more working people to take

advantage of the services. Financial coaches will work with individuals and families to help balance their expenses with their incomes. Career counselors will help clients with resume preparation and job applications. Service is by call-ahead appointment: 757-877-6211.



**THRIVE now has
Instagram and Twitter!**



Connect with us @thrivepeninsula

Client Testimony

Volunteer Spotlight: Lorene Culotta



Jean was struggling to make enough to pay all the bills through her substitute teaching job. As a result her bank account was in overdraft and the rent was due. She had no where else to turn so she called 211 and was referred to THRIVE.

Jean didn't know what to expect and was apprehensive about making an appointment. However, the people at THRIVE were so welcoming and non-judgmental, that she was soon comfortable with the process. Not only did she receive help with her rent, she also participated in an in-depth budget coaching session. She learned some cost-saving tips that she intends to put into practice. Jean was able to help select a week's food for herself and her husband, and was very impressed with the freshness of the food.

Creative Fundraiser

Hilda Mason, a parishioner at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, had an idea that she presented to the Outreach Committee. She remembered, in her youth, having Mite boxes to collect spare change during



Lent and brought back to church on Easter Sunday to feed the poor. Why not resurrect the Mite box concept and use small, unpainted wooden banks as CAN boxes (instead of Mite or "Might"). A couple dozen banks were ordered from Oriental Trader, and the church held a paint night in conjunction with their pancake supper. The banks were painted and taken home to collect change and brought back on Easter Sunday with the funds to be donated between THRIVE Peninsula and the St. Stephen's Hampers and Hope project.

The collection amounted to over \$300 and generated so much enthusiasm that more banks have been ordered in order for the CAN boxes to be an ongoing program in which parishioners deposit their spare change and bring in their boxes the first Sunday of every month.



Lorene volunteers in the THRIVE pantry each Wednesday afternoon. Her friend, Jean Putnam, from Hilton Christian Church, first told her about the need for volunteers about 17 years ago when THRIVE was still DUCO. Lorene's pantry duties include stocking shelves, bagging food items, and filling grocery carts for clients. Each client receives about 30 pounds of food per family member. The best parts of Lorene's work are working with clients who are all so appreciative and making new friends with other volunteers.

Last year, Lorene's children wanted to give her an 80th birthday party. At first she resisted, but then said she'd allow it if, instead of gifts, her family and friends contributed food and donations to THRIVE. She was overwhelmed to receive a truck-load of food and over \$1000 in donations! What better way to celebrate a significant birthday!

Volunteer Needs

THRIVE is in need of phone-call-applications help on Mondays; schedule is flexible. Also front desk/data entry help is needed on Tuesdays from 3-5pm. Call 757-877-6211 x3.

Food Pantry Most Needed Items

May 2018

- Canned Meats/Tuna
- Canned Fruit
- Cereal
- Oatmeal

