

GreenTree Community HEALTH FOUNDATION



Improving the health and well-being of communities in Northwest Philadelphia and Eastern Montgomery County.

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Serving a million people in our region each month.



Chestnut Hill Meals on Wheels
Keeping meals rolling with our committed volunteers.



Why Not Prosper
Fighting hunger in the heart of Germantown.

Dear Neighbor,

I hope you are well and enjoying the season change! The seasons seem more noticeable this year as our schedules have changed and we have become hyper local.

During this most unusual year it has felt difficult to celebrate at times. With you today we would like to celebrate some amazing people in our neighborhood - exceptional nurses serving our community at Chestnut Hill Hospital, volunteers that continue to serve through the pandemic, donors who have made service possible during this unique year, and especially those working on the front lines providing food to the many in need. I hope you enjoy learning more about your wonderful neighbors!

It is likely that you have heard that the hunger and food insecurity needs within our area have increased. Feeding America reports 20.2% of Philadelphians are now food insecure (up from 16.3% in 2018). We have several exceptional organizations who have increased their workload to serve many more people than they were several months ago. Share, Why Not Prosper, and Chestnut Hill Meals on Wheels have worked tirelessly to respond to address the school meal situation, the increased number of hungry, and to serve those isolated with increased need. We thank them for their incredible commitment to serving our community.

THANK YOU! Each of you has had a role in making this community one we are proud to be a part of even, and perhaps especially, during a pandemic. Stay well!

Bethany Flood
Executive Director



P.S. Look for updates on our strategic planning process in the next newsletter and on our website! Thank you for your participation!

Stay connected on social media @GreenTreeFnd

Sign up to receive email updates, digital newsletters, and event invitations at greentreecommunityhealth.org.

Scroll to the bottom of any page and click "Join Email List."

**Don't forget
to check out our full
donor list inside**

SHARE Food Program

Food Security for All

By: Mara Natkins, Director of Development

Share Food Program has mobilized and is driving a powerful, expansive, and rapid response to avert COVID-19-related food shortages in our region.

We are now serving a million people in our region each month and delivering the equivalent of 1.5 million meals each week. We also began our contactless “Knock, Drop and Roll” program of home deliveries for seniors and people with disabilities and significant health challenges.

Share manages the National School Lunch Program in the region, which serves over 305,000 children. We are tailoring our responses to the individual and evolving needs of each school district, supplying “grab and go” meals when schools are offering those, and providing schools with additional food supplies for families in greatest need.



Looking ahead, we anticipate that the economic impact of COVID-19 will continue after the health crisis has subsided. Support from the Green Tree Community Health Foundation brings essential food to neighbors during this crisis and helps them regain self-sufficiency.



CHESTNUT HILL MEALS ON WHEELS

Keeping Meals Rolling!

By: Lauri Barish, Executive Director

Thanks to the generosity of our friends in Northwestern Philadelphia and Eastern Montgomery County, as well as an incredibly committed group of volunteers, Chestnut Hill Meals on Wheels has not missed a beat since the onset of COVID-19! We've continued to provide fresh, nutritious home-delivered meals five days a week to our neighbors facing the challenges of age, disability, illness, and injury.

The nature of our deliveries has changed a bit—friendly visiting has shifted to socially distant chats on the porch and regular phone calls—and we've added monthly nonperishable grocery bags to support our clients who are unable to go to the store, but the mission is being met. We are optimistic that we will be able to continue to meet the needs of our clients through the months ahead. A big thank you to Green Tree for continuing to support us!

Volunteer Spotlight

Janet Rubien

I became involved in Green Tree at the time when I was considering retirement and wanted a way to be engaged in my community that would utilize my skill set. As the Director of Programs for Easter Seals of Southeastern Pennsylvania for 20+ years, I had developed skills in program evaluation and development.



Passing by the Green Tree office on numerous occasions, I noticed their “shingle” and decided to look them up. What I found was that the Foundation was looking for site visitors at that time. That was true synergy!

As a long-term member of this community, I hope to continue my involvement with the Foundation in years to come. I enjoy meeting committed program administrators and especially seeing programs in action with engaged youth and motivated learners.

Bob Jones

I became connected to Green Tree several years ago when I noticed a call for volunteers in a GT Newsletter. Since I knew the Executive Director at that time, Susan Hansen, from my prior life as an attorney, I called her to ask about the volunteer needs. She told me about the Site Visitor role which sounded interesting, so I signed on.



It is hard to choose a single “most interesting” volunteer activity. I continue to do Site Visits which allow me to learn about Green Tree grantees. All of them are interesting organizations working to improve the health of our community. I have also very much enjoyed the opportunity to meet and work with the other members of the Board and our terrific staff. There is literally nothing not to like about the opportunity to serve as a volunteer for GT although one can hope for a diminished role for zoom meetings in our future.

Why Not Prosper – Meeting Challenge After Challenge

By: Joseph Morrison

Why Not Prosper has been busy with a wide range of activities as the Covid-19 pandemic continues! We have been packing Love Bags for our sisters behind the wall, encouraged all members of our community to be counted in the US Census, and have initiated voting awareness efforts. Additionally, we are working on an app and pre-paid phone distribution that will allow women returning from prison to immediately get connected to urgent services.

In its 7th year, our Share the Bounty Program continues to fight hunger in the heart of Germantown. Since the COVID crisis began, this program has seen an increase in participants as well as an increase in individuals stepping up to assist. Share the Bounty is open to anyone in need and currently provides to-go hot meals and food boxes to an average of 45 families a day. The women of Why Not Prosper have been assisting in program operation, making masks, and putting together hand sanitizer for distribution. Our community partners such as local supermarkets, restaurants, and Green Tree have also stepped up, making sure Share the Bounty is able to operate when our community needs it most.





Bethany Flood,
Executive Director

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Editor

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**Congratulations to our 2020
Elissa Messori Jacobsen
Nursing Award recipients!**

The Elissa Messori Jacobsen Nursing Award was established by Dr. and Mrs. Divo Messori to celebrate the life of their daughter Lisa, a nurse at Chestnut Hill Hospital. Lisa died in 2001 after a battle with breast cancer. The award is presented in recognition of each nurse's commitment to academic achievement, professional advancement, and patient care at Chestnut Hill Hospital.

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|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Abigail Benbow | Bahiya Morton |
| Dempsey Cooper | Maude Orlor |
| Caleb Foy | Kyle Raczynski |
| Ashley Rose | Britney Rhym |
| Frazier-Willie | Barbara Strain |
| Jarrell Hill | Anna Thomas |
| Rory Hosephros | Elina Vengrinovici |
| Rebecca Kreyer | |

To contribute to the Elissa Messori Jacobsen Memorial Nursing Award Fund, please contact Green Tree at 215-438-8102.

**Grants Awarded
Fall 2020**

Green Tree was proud to award \$175,500 in grants this September to organizations fighting food insecurity in our community! Thank you to the following organizations for their hard work, dedication, and the critical services they provide!

- Center in the Park
- Chestnut Hill Meals on Wheels
- Face to Face
- Food Moxie
- Inter-faith Housing Alliance
- Jewish Relief Agency
- Montgomery County Senior Adult Activities Center
- SHARE
- Visiting Nurses Association of Philadelphia
- Why Not Prosper



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Call 215.438.8102 or visit us at greentreecommunityhealth.org



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Philadelphia, PA 19118



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and Southern New Jersey
Donor Code 16083