

**OFFICE OF THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY EXECUTIVE
ANGELA D. ALSOBROOKS**

PRESS RELEASE

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**COUNTY EXECUTIVE ANNOUNCES PARTNERSHIP WITH UNITED WAY
TO HELP ADDRESS FOOD INSECURITY**

LARGO, MD – Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks is proud to announce her new program, Stand Up & Deliver, and is excited to partner with United Way of the National Capital Area (United Way NCA) to help address food insecurity in the County. In response to the impact of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak resulting in more than 115,000 residents filing for unemployment, Prince George's County established the Stand Up & Deliver program. This program presents an innovative and targeted solution to build capacity for community-based organizations and small businesses to address food insecurity and basic needs in the County. The Stand Up & Deliver program model includes partnering with non-profits and our local restaurants to provide groceries and/or prepared meals weekly to residents throughout the County. In addition to food, the program will also help with other needs within the community such as personal hygiene and paper products, baby items, and other family needs.

“The COVID-19 virus is indiscriminate. It knows no boundaries with race, gender or socio-economic status and all of us have been impacted by this virus in one form or another,” Alsobrooks said. “The virus, however, will not have the final say. Working together with our partners like United Way of the National Capital Area, we will continue to meet the needs of those we serve, and we will come through these times stronger and more united.”

Since the program launch on May 29th, 6,700 prepared meals and food items were distributed during the month of June at five locations across the County on Tuesdays and Thursdays, supplying at least 700 meals per distribution. The goal is to provide nutritious meals, or at times, food pantry items to help residents complete a meal for their household.

The five locations, which rotate each week, are: Victory Grace Center in Bladensburg; Faith Temple #2 Free Will Baptist Church in Capital Heights; Bishop McNamara High School in Forestville; St. Mark the Evangelist Church in Hyattsville; and St. Mary's of Piscataway Church

in Clinton. Meal distributions begin at 12:30 p.m. Sites were selected based on data that shows where our most food insecure areas are located in the county.

Donations for the program are made directly to United Way NCA, who will then provide grant funding to local non-profits, all of whom have been vetted and selected jointly by the County and United Way NCA, allowing them to work with local restaurants to provide pop-up food distribution locations throughout the County on a weekly basis. The distribution locations will provide both prepared meals and groceries. This allows local non-profits to continue building capacity during the pandemic, while also providing opportunities for restaurants to keep their staffs working.

“We applaud County Executive Alsobrooks on her leadership and are proud to partner with Prince George’s County to build capacity and respond to the food insecurity and basic needs in the County,” said Rosie Allen-Herring, President and CEO of United Way of the National Capital Area. “The wonderful aspect of this partnership is anyone who sees themselves as part of the solution can help and every little effort counts. Those who typically help by volunteering can lend their support by donating to the Stand Up & Deliver program. Donations benefit the non-profits providing food and basic needs, as well as the food providers who can now retain their staff to prepare and deliver food to County residents.”

While the program was seeded with an initial \$75,000 donation from local AAU basketball program Team Takeover and several of their alumni, additional donations will be needed as the program aims to continue operating through the ongoing recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. This becomes increasingly critical as World Central Kitchen has begun to scale back operations across the County and will stop their meal distributions completely by the end of July.

Those wishing to donate can do so by visiting the United Way of the National Capital Area website at UnitedWayNCA.org/PGCDelivers. If you would like to make your donation via check, please make it payable to United Way NCA, add PGC-SUD in the subject line and mail to United Way of the National Capital Area, 1577 Spring Hill Rd Suite 420, Vienna, VA 22182.

If you would like to make a donation via an electronic cash transfer from your individual bank account, please contact Roxy Harris at rharris@uwnca.org or 202.488.2012 to do so in a secure and confidential manner.

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