FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

BUILDING A COMMUNITY WITHOUT HUNGER

"Please accept my grateful appreciation for the food I have received a few times from CORA. Almost every time I've visited, I had nothing to eat in my home. Nothing at all! So, you can easily understand my urgent need and know that your volunteers, staff, and contributors have made a truly generous gift to my life and health."
– Fran, Siler City

WHY DOES CORA CHOOSE TO HELP?

Approximately 10% of Chatham County families fight poverty daily. CORA (Chatham Outreach Alliance) is a place where the community comes together to help ensure that none of its neighbors go hungry. Thanks to the vision, generosity, and hard work of hundreds of individuals, businesses, churches, and organizations CORA is a thriving organization helping Chatham County residents.

WHO DOES CORA HELP?

Any resident of Chatham County who is facing hunger is welcome. Those who are from other counties will receive assistance on their first visit and we give them the resources to find help in their own community.

WHEN AND HOW OFTEN CAN I GET HELP?

CORA serves any Chatham County resident who needs emergency food and we are open Monday through Thursday, between 10 am to 1 pm. Families can visit CORA twice a month.

WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT ON MY VISIT?

The Pantry is a place of hope and comfort for many in our community, a respite from their struggles where there is always an empathetic ear, supportive smile, and shelves of food to help meet their needs. As we navigate building renovations, Due to building renovations, we provide food curbside. Client intake will take place outdoors and clients will receive their groceries in their car. We do have an easy and private registration process where we collect minimal information.

HOW DO I GET TO CORA?

We are located just off HWY 87 at 40 Camp Drive, across the street from the Chatham Community Library in Pittsboro.

WHAT WILL I RECEIVE ON MY VISIT?

Due to building renovations, we provide food curbside, and you do not need to make an appointment. We are open Monday through Thursday between 10 am - 1 pm. We are distributing pre-packed bags of shelf-stable food including canned fruits and vegetables, rice or pasta, soups, breakfast cereal or cereal bars, and a variety of other nutritious food. We supplement these staples with fresh produce, bakery items, milk, and eggs.

DOES CORA HAVE ANY OTHER FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS?

CORA strives to address food insecurity through many partnerships in Chatham County. Currently, our two biggest initiatives are SNACK! and the Mobile Market.

SNACK! - Each summer CORA distributes food to more than 1,300 hungry kids who depend on federal school meals for adequate nutrition during the school year, but who have little or no replacement for this nutrition when school is not in session. SNACK! provides food for 21meals for 10 weeks mid-June through mid-August.

Mobile Market -This program helps us reach those in need of food far beyond the boundaries of our Pantry location in Pittsboro. Approximately 70% of those we serve do not live in Pittsboro or surrounding areas, and lower-income areas in our community are home to several food deserts. We currently distribute food via a drive-through model. F We host a Mobile Market in Siler City and at Natures Trail in Chapel Hill each month. We occasionally host additional Mobile Markets at other strategic points around the county where food insecurity is the most prevalent. Last year, we served nearly 10,000 individuals over 200,000 meals through this essential program.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

We have many different ways that people in the community can help us fulfill our mission. If you would like to volunteer, contact Admaira Roman, Community Support Manager, at Admaira@corafoodpantry.org to learn more. Opportunities are available for both groups and individuals. CORA also deeply values both monetary and food donations. Please visit our website to find out more or contact Rebecca Hankins at rebecca@corafoodpantry.org.

WHAT ARE CORA'S REGULAR HOURS OF OPERATION?

CORA's office hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. The Pantry is open Monday – Thursday, 10 am to 1 pm.