



**Helping Hands of
Paulding County, Inc.**

Helping Hands of Paulding County *Hand In Hand* Capital Campaign

Please join hands with us as we:

- ♥ Respond with urgency to avoid a hunger crisis in Paulding County as food prices soar, inflation rises, and more first-time clients reach out for help.
- ♥ Triple food assistance with a re-imagined home that allows for client choice, thereby minimizing waste and maximizing efficiency.
- ♥ Expand the clothing closet to provide increased access and greater selection.
- ♥ Provide much needed space for essential social services vital to the well being of our clients.

There is no greater joy in our hearts than knowing our community is working together, making a difference in our faithfulness to combat hunger!





Hand In Hand Introduction

For 35 years, Helping Hands of Paulding County has been a lifeline for residents by providing emergency food assistance, a clothing bank, and supportive services for individuals in need. Helping Hands was founded through a partnership of Dallas First Baptist Church, Dallas First United Methodist Church, New Canaan Baptist Church, New Hope Baptist Church, and Poplar Springs Baptist Church. Now, more than twenty faith-based and community partners support Helping Hands.

This coalition plays a vital role in caring for our under-resourced citizens. Last year we supported over 31,000 client visits and 14,000 volunteer hours making Helping Hands one of the most impactful social service non-profits in one of Georgia's fastest-growing counties. The need for expansion to more food, clothing, and social services support has never been greater.

As a High Priority Partner of the Atlanta Community Food Bank, **Helping Hands faithfully distributes more than 70% of food provided to food-insecure individuals in Paulding County.** Economic strains have increased the need for our services as visits grew from an average of 218 families per week in 2021 to 250 families per week in 2022.

Operations exceeded capacity some time ago and are not able to meet current demand due to limited space for storage, staffing, and volunteers. The bottom line is that the current facility is no longer suitable to serve our clients.

Helping Hands needs a new Home! Helping Hands needs YOU!

The Need

Helping Hands clients work hard to manage groceries, transportation, housing, and childcare, and one high utility bill, emergency, or medical expense can undo all their progress toward independence and stability. Clients often face impossible choices between core needs like rent or food.

The overall food insecurity rate in Paulding County saw a **58.5%** increase from 9% in 2018 to over 14.3% in 2020. A Feeding America study showed a 45% increase to 18% or 7,550 children experiencing food insecurity in Paulding County from 2018 to 2020. What we know is the level of food insecurity has increased tremendously since then.

While children remain particularly vulnerable to hunger and poverty, it may come as a surprise just how many people experience food insecurity. They include parents, families, working adults, seniors, military veterans, students, individuals with disabilities, and those experiencing homelessness.

Expanding into the Future

The current facility at 228 West Spring Street is no longer suitable. It is in poor condition, lacks warehouse capacity, and is in an area undergoing redevelopment. Working with community leaders, land has been secured in the Dallas Industrial Park which will allow for a client-choice food pantry, expanded human services, and an on-site clothing closet.

With loading docks, ample storage, community workspace, and expanded refrigeration, the new facility will significantly improve efficiency and decrease food waste. An area for administration will support the expansion of staff and volunteers for case management and outreach needed to meet the needs of the community. This vibrant new center will play a key role as Helping Hands becomes an increasingly important hub for social service points of contact in Paulding County.

Hand In Hand We Fight Hunger



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Helping Hands at a Glance

- 501c3 non-profit EIN: 58-1896151
- Founded in 1987
- Provide compassionate aid in Paulding County
- Partner with churches, citizens, and community organizations

Agency in good standing with:

Atlanta Community Food Bank
DFACS (Division of Family and Children Services)
Midwest Food Bank
Travelers Aid/Hope Atlanta
United Methodist Children's Home
United Way of Greater Atlanta

Helping Hands Mission

Helping Hands of Paulding County is a nonprofit Christian organization fostering a caring atmosphere to actively fulfill God's plan to assist our neighbors in need of food, clothing and other vital services.

What is Food Insecurity?

Food insecurity is the lack of consistent access to ample food for an active, healthy life for household members, and limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate food. The USDA estimates that more than 34 million people, including 9 million children, experience food insecurity, punctuating the critical need for charitable assistance provided by Helping Hands.

Who We Serve

31,158

Total client visits over
course of year

13,028

Total families represented in visits

35,003

Total pounds of non-food items
distributed to families

860,795

Total pounds of food distributed

122,000

Food distributed to other
ministries

13,810

Volunteer & community service
hours

69.2%

Percent of families receiving food
stamp assistance

149

Days Open

Of clients reporting gender, race, and ethnicity, 56% were women, 44% were men, 34% were Black, 56% were White, 7% were Latinx, and 3% were other.

Reflects data from January 1, 2022 - December 31, 2022

Contact Us

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Contact us to learn more or to support *Hand In Hand Building Campaign*