

Volunteer Opportunities

**Supply Drives**

Feminine products, hair care, makeup, hygiene products for Esther House (women’s domestic violence shelter)

* + Esther House

P.O. Box 734

313 N. Second St. Albemarle, NC 28001

704-961-7502

[www.estherhousecares.org](http://www.estherhousecares.org)

Household cleaning products, paper towels, toilet paper, basic household items (gently used or new towels, bedding, kitchen items, small appliances) for Homes of Hope (transitional housing for homeless families)

* + Homes of Hope, Inc.

1816-B East Main St.

Albemarle, NC 28001

704-982-3634

[www.homesofhopestanly.org](http://www.homesofhopestanly.org)

Men’s and women’s socks, underwear, sunscreen, deodorant, personal cleaning wipes, individually wrapped snack food for the Community Inn (overnight homeless shelter)

* + Community Inn (open 6pm-7am daily)

510 S. First St.

Albemarle, NC 28001

704-984-6454

[www.homesofhopestanly.org](http://www.homesofhopestanly.org)

Donations can also be dropped off Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm at Homes of Hope, Inc.

Nonperishable grocery items for Stanly Community Christian Ministry’s food pantry (canned meats, pasta, peanut butter, jelly and cereal are most needed)

* + Stanly Community Christian Ministry (SCCM)

506 S. First St.

Albemarle, NC 28001

704-982-7915

[www.sccminc.org](http://www.sccminc.org)

Clothing: Men’s, women’s, children’s, shoes, accessories, curtains, bedding, toys, books, SMALL household items (no furniture) for Stanly Community Christian Ministry’s Clothing Closet.

*Items are EITHER: given to people with a voucher for free, sold in the store and proceeds benefit financial assistance programs at SCCM (help with utilities, rent, medical expenses, etc), OR fabric is recycled and proceeds benefit SCCM.*

* + SCCM Clothing Closet

1324 E. Main St.

Albemarle, NC 28001

704-982-0246

[www.sccminc.org](http://www.sccminc.org)

Quarter drive for Laundry ministry at Mary & Martha Center for Women. Quarters are used to help women who need laundry assistance.

* + Mary & Martha Center for Women and Community Care

138 W. South St.

Albemarle, NC 28001

704-983-7785

[www.themaryandmartha.com](http://www.themaryandmartha.com)

**DIY GUIDE TO HOMEMADE MASKS**

There’s no denying that more individuals and families than ever before are in crisis because of COVID-19. And the network of agencies we support is reaching a critical breaking point. Some of the ways we can offer hope during this unprecedented community crisis is by spreading some #LocalLove.

Supplies

• Sewing machine and thread

• 100% cotton fabric (preferably double-layered with a tight weave)

• 1/8″ flat elastic or 4 fabric ties made of the same fabric

• Scissors

• Ruler

• Straight pins

Cutting Your Material

For an adult-size mask:

• Cut one fabric rectangle 16″ long and 8.5″ wide

• Cut two 7” pieces of elastic (or up to 8″ for a larger adult size)

For a child-size mask:

• Cut one fabric rectangle 14″ long and 6.5″ wide

• Cut two 6” pieces of elastic

For elastic ear loops:

• Adult: Cut two 7″ long pieces of elastic or up to 8″ for a larger adult size)

• Child: Cut two 6″ long pieces of elastic

For fabric ties (if you aren’t using elastic):

• Cut four rectangles 18″ long by 1.75″ wide. Fold the long sides to meet in the middle, then fold in half again to encase the raw edges. Stitch down the length of the rectangles along the edge to create the ties. Ties can be cut slightly shorter for a child mask.

Instructions

• Cut fabric to adult or child size indicated above.

• With the fabric’s pattern facing up, fold in half by bringing the two 8.5-inch sides together. Sew along the top edge with a ¼-inch seam allowance. This will create a tube.

• Turn the tube inside out so the right sides (pattern facing up) are on the outside. Press flat. Fold the two non-seemed edges inside ½ inch to create a folded finished edge. Press to smooth.

• To make the pleats, measure 11 ½ inches up from the bottom of the long edge and mark with a fabric pen or chalk. Make another line 1 inch above the previously marked line. Fold the top (seam edge) down to the first line making a crease. Flip the piece over, fold the crease edge down to the second line and press. Pin in place.

Day of Caring® Product Drives Opportunities

• Repeat the previous step two more times to create two additional ½ pleats. For further guidance on this step, watch this step-by-step tutorial: https://buttoncounter.com/2018/01/14/facemask-a-picture-tutorial/

• To attach the straps or elastics, place the pre-measured elastics or ties at the top and bottom of the mask between the two layers of fabric and pin.

• Sew the sides of the mask and trim the threads. Your mask is now complete!

Reference Sites & Video Tutorials:

https://sarahmaker.com/how-to-sew-a-surgical-face-mask-for-hospitals-free-pattern/

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BCJcE-r7kcg

https://buttoncounter.com/2018/01/14/facemask-a-picture-tutorial/

https://www.craftpassion.com/face-mask-sewing-pattern/

**Donate**

Deliver and donate masks to: United Way of Stanly County

427 N. First St. Albemarle, NC 28001 (inside the YMCA)

**DIY GUIDE TO COVID PROTECTION KITS**

There’s no denying that more individuals and families than ever before are in crisis because of COVID-19. And the network of agencies we support is reaching a critical breaking point. Some of the ways we can offer hope during this unprecedented community crisis is by spreading some #LocalLove.

Description

Hygiene Kits are always in high-demand and is one of the biggest needs of our agency partners, especially in this time of crisis. Create kits that have supplies that can last for at least a month so people in need have what they need to maintain good hygiene.

Supplies

• Face Masks

• Gloves

• Disinfectant cleaners

• Disinfectant wipes (like Germ-X)

• Body Soap

• Laundry Detergent

Directions

• Collect items in plastic ziploc bags

• Get creative and write an encouragement note with your own personal greeting. Example ‘Thinking of you’ or ‘Share some of your kindness today too’

• Take a picture of completed kit and tag @uwsc on Instagram, Facebook or Twitter.

**Donate**

Deliver and donate kits to United Way of Stanly County located at 427 N. First St. Albemarle NC (inside the YMCA) We will give them to local nonprofits who need them.

**DIY GUIDE TO WRITE A NOTE TO FRONTLINE WORKERS**

#LocalLove in a Global Crisis

There’s no denying that more individuals and families than ever before are in crisis because of COVID-19. And the network of agencies we support is reaching a critical breaking point. Some of the ways we can offer hope during this unprecedented community crisis is by spreading some #LocalLove.

Description

Show your #LocalLove to frontline workers who selflessly continued to provide essential services to the members of our community and especially to those in vulnerable situations.

**Supplies**

• Card stock

• blank white cards and envelopes

• Cutting tools like scissors

• An X-ACTO knife or a paper trimmer

• Paper-friendly adhesive

• Additional supplies for cards you choose to make

Directions

• Get creative and write an encouragement note with your own personal greeting. Example ‘Thinking of you’ or ‘Share some of your kindness today too’

• Take a picture of completed kit and tag @uwsc on Instagram, Facebook

**Donate**

Deliver and donate kits to United Way of Stanly County, located at 427 N. First St. Albemarle, NC (inside the YMCA)

**DIY GUIDE TO COZY COCOA KITS**

#UNIGNORABLE Issue: Senior Isolation

With widespread anxiety across our community there is an increased need for mental health support especially for vulnerable seniors. United Way funds a broad range of services aimed at increasing access to mental health services and strengthen support networks to reduce social isolation.

Description

Help spread cheer by creating Cozy Cocoa Kits for older adults this fall/winter. These kits will warm their hearts and make their days brighter!

Supplies

• Box of 8-ounce jelly jars (12 pk): $8.50

• Roll of holiday wrapping paper $4.00

• Box of mini candy canes $3.00

• Box of hot cocoa packets $3.00

• Bag of shredded gift filler $4.00

• Scissor

• Ruler

• Pencil

Total: $23.50 (Makes 12 Kits)

Directions

• Fill the jelly jar with a handful of shredded gift filler-just enough to cover the bottom of the jar

• Put one hot cocoa packet and three mini candy canes in the jar on top of the filler

• Place the metal flat disk on top of the jar

• Cut a 6 inch x 6 inch piece of wrapping paper

• Place the wrapping paper square on top of the flat disk

• Screw the ring on the jar.

• Take a picture of completed kit and tag @uwsc on Instagram, Facebook

**Donate**

Deliver and donate kits to United Way of Stanly County, located at 427 N. First St. Albemarle, NC (inside the YMCA)

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**DIY GUIDE TO SENIORS’ ACTIVITY KIT**

#UNIGNORABLE Issue: Senior Isolation

With widespread anxiety across our community there is an increased need for mental health support especially for vulnerable seniors. United Way funds a broad range of services aimed at increasing access to mental health services and strengthen support networks to reduce social isolation.

Description

Help spread kindness and joy by creating Activity Kits for older adults. These kits will give seniors a chance to be active and occupied during long days of isolation.

**Supplies**

• Crossword Book

• Post Cards

• Coloring Sheets

• Puzzles

• Pens

• Sugar free candy / treats

• Letter pad

• Tote bag

Directions

• Arrange all the supplies in a tote bag

• Leave a note in the bag, such as “Thinking of You! Or You are loved! Or ‘Enjoy!’

• Take a picture of completed kit and tag @uwsc on Instagram, Facebook

**Donate**

Deliver and donate kits to United Way of Stanly County and we will get them to seniors who need a smile!

**DIY GUIDE TO KITS FOR KIDS**

#UNIGNORABLE Issue: Child and Youth Poverty

A group that is overrepresented in poverty is children and youth. Evidence shows that there are gaps in cognitive skills and behaviours between low-income children and children who are not low income, even before they begin school. United Way funds programs critical in childhood development, characterized by brain development, increasing independence from parents, and growing attachment to peers.

**Description**

Make a care kit filled with essentials and goodies can help provide kids with the love, care and support they need during this time.

Supplies and Approximate Budget

• Backpack ($10)

• Pajamas ($8)

• Small Blanket ($5)

• Coloring Book ($1)

• Crayons ($1)

• Stuffed Animal ($5)

• Stationery – Pens, pencils, erasers, notepads, sharpeners ($5)

Total: $35 for one backpack (if all items listed are used)

Directions

• Fill the backpacks with the items you chose to get.

• You can make specific backpacks- for older kids or younger kids.

• Take a picture of completed kit and tag @uwsc on Instagram, Facebook

**Donate**

Deliver and donate kits to United Way of Stanly County and we will give them to kids in need!