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"Families Helping Families in Houston" Why We Want to Feed 3,000 Families at Thanksgiving

Richmond, Tx. November, 2021 -- For over 8 years Families Helping Families Houston has existed for one reason. An increased need in our community to reduce food insecurities among those who have been hit by hard times. That's what has motivated **Families Helping Families Houston** to not only provide a weeks' worth of groceries and a Thanksgiving dinner, but to increase their reach, in order to feed **three-thousand families in 2021**. The need is great and the need is real and there are several ways residents, organizations and business owners can help. https://www.fhfhouston.com/

What's the story behind the creation of Families Helping Families?

The founder, Quincy Collins, has always been active at his church, and about seven years ago, after a church member's home was destroyed by fire and everything she owned was lost, members of the congregation begin to collect things she desperately needed, such as household items, clothing, and a place to live. Mr. Collins, who is also a musician, asked his friends if they would help. They collected nearly \$800 in donations, purchased food and other items, and delivered them to the family. That was a turning point in Quincy's life when he realized how much he had to be thankful for, and that he owed it to his community to give back.

The following year, he asked several friends, families and colleagues to help collect donations and provide food to families in need, every year.

"I had discussions with community leaders and police officers in Fort Bend County and learned that there are so many kids who are food insecure and do not have access to adequate meals outside of school," Mr. Collins recalls. "That's when my mission became clear...we need to feed kids and their families during the Thanksgiving holiday!"

That became the mission for *Families Helping Families in Houston*, a nonprofit organization that has evolved into something greater and more impactful than could have been ever imagined.

How does Families Helping Families identified families in need?

The selections are primarily determined by the school counselors and district police officers and partnerships with local law enforcement. They are the feet on the street that are connected to our community members, and they know the families 'stories. They allow us to gift those that are most in need.



How much food does a donation provide? How does this compare to other food distribution programs in the area?

One donation of \$150 provides 3 meals a day for 7 days. It also includes a traditional Thanksgiving meal, with a turkey, ham, and a whole chicken. Our target recipients are those within our community, specifically children in our local school districts. Children are provided meals at school, but during the holidays, these children may not receive the nutrition necessary for full growth potential, physically and mentally, due to economic hardships. Our goal is to provide these children with the sufficient meals during the holidays

Will there be a donation or distribution location this year? (timeline)

Each year, a designated location is determined for the distribution event. As we grow, our distribution location changes in order to accommodate the project. Previous locations have included Smart Financial Center & HEB University Blvd. Donations are welcomed throughout the year from anyone blessed enough to contribute.

This year the distribution site will be at Fort Bend ISD George Bush High School located at 6707 FM 1464 RD, Richmond, TX 77407 on Saturday, November 20, 2021 from 8am-4pm

Where do you see Families Helping Families going or growing in the next 5-15 years? "One of my favorite memories as a kid was when my grandparents would take me to feed the homeless in downtown Houston," said *Quincy Collins, Families Helping Families Founder*. "During the cold winter months, they would make homemade beef stew and pass it out to people on the street. My grandparents are the reason why I do what I do."

"With limited money and resources, they instilled in me the importance of giving back, not by their words but by their actions. I saw firsthand the true meaning of doing Jesus 'work. I take their priceless teachings and use them to build a foundation and legacy for my children," Quincy added. "We are beyond blessed and have much to offer those of all faiths, races, and cultures."

Our goal is to increase recipients to 10,000 families to the surrounding counties and into other Texas cities, and eventually reach a national level.