

# COVID-19 Yancey Food Security Report 1

Prepared on 3/24/2020 by Kathleen Wood of Dig In! with support from Michael Graf and Dru Zucchini of TRACTOR Food and Farms

## Information provided by:

John Miller, Reconciliation House (3/23/2020)

Robert Wyatt, Yancey Feed-A-Child (3/23/2020)

Jackie Thomas, Yancey Community Center (3/23/2020)

Kathy Amos, Yancey County Schools (3/24/2020)

## Yancey Community Food Security Response for the week of March 23, 2020

- Rec House distributes pre-packed food boxes on Monday (3/23) and Wednesday (3/25) from 9-12 and 1-3 PM; food distribution on Saturday (3/28) from 10-3. Distribution site is located on N. Main at the Higgins Parking lot. Families are eligible to receive a box every 2 weeks. Rec House staff collects household information including names, address, and number in household of recipients
- YCS prepares breakfast and lunch meals for 339 kids that are available for pick-up at East Yancey or Blue Ridge Elementary or delivered Monday-Friday. Recipients include families from Head Start and other childcare agencies. Families can sign-up for food here:  
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfCl3wcc9d2tWPOqvxRT3ef8Z2EEEMcF5nSbNJzWPji0WcZ-g/viewform>
- Yancey Feed-A-Child packs and provides boxes with snacks and kid-centered food to be distributed to 339 kids enrolled in YCS food program each delivery date
- TRACTOR provides storage space and logistical support for Rec House food delivery and box packing on 3/27/2020
- Dig In! hosts invite-only work days to expand spring planting for local vegetable production
- Yancey Community Center (formerly Senior Center) is serving Meals-on-Wheels to enrolled recipients. People over the age of 60 can call the Senior Center (828-682-6011) by 10:00 AM and request a meal that they then must pick-up at the Center starting at 11:30 AM. Staff will bring the meal to their car.
- Ingles and Sav-More restrict Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 7-8 AM for at-risk shoppers
- Please share this volunteer form through your networks for folks wanting to support these efforts:  
<https://forms.gle/Cu9Pre4yQJvMyv83A>

## Food Security Gaps and Needs

- Rec House seeking donations for food purchases. Donations can be made here:  
<https://www.rec-house.org/en/donate>
- Feed-A-Child seeking donated snacks and financial donations. Snack donations may be taken to Beverly-Hanks Realty in Burnsville and placed in the black enclosed trailer. Monetary donations can be made either by PayPal or mail a check to Feed-a-child at:  
151 Laurel Heights Drive, Burnsville, NC 28714.
- Reconciliation House receiving requests for food delivery from self-isolating households. Dig In! and Rec House coordinating with YCTA to organize a once-per-week delivery day of food boxes.
- Question about how long YCS will/can continue food program

- Question about whether YCS will distribute food provided by MANNA that is being packed and provided specifically for households (to supplement what Yancey Feed-A-Child is providing specifically for kids in the household).

### **Activities reported for the week of March 16, 2020**

#### **Food Security impact the week of March 16, 2020 in Yancey County**

- 339 children received breakfast and lunch prepared and distributed by Yancey County Schools through a delivery and pick-up system starting weekdays on Wednesday, March 18.
- 339 children received snacks and simple meals packed and provided by Yancey Feed-A-Child
- 217 households received a pre-packed box of shelf stable items, frozen meats, and donated produce through Reconciliation House
- 74 elderly citizens received a hot meal delivered by Meals-on-Wheels
- Approximately 50 duplicated seniors received a hot meal prepared by the Yancey Community Center (average 10 individuals/day) the week of March 16, 2020.
- Dig In! and local gardeners donated collards, spinach and eggs to food distribution efforts

#### **Community Food Collaborations**

- TRACTOR provides storage space and logistical support to food pantries and feeding programs in their facility
- Dig In! coordinates with Blue Ridge Partnership for Children, Blue Ridge Healthy Families, and Head Start to identify and enroll families with emergency food needs in YCS food deliveries
- Partners Aligned Towards Health coordinates an effort with Yancey County Government and Yancey Advancement Foundation to establish a donation mechanism
- Yancey Feed-A-Child works with YCS in their food response