



**Incubating Missional Food Pantries and Innovative Ministries**  
*by training and equipping Christian leaders*

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**Faith Hope Love Community, Inc (FHL)** responds to urgent COVID19 need with a new “Drive Thru Missional Food Pantry” located at 6706 Craig Street, Indianapolis, IN 46250. A number of food pantries in the city have been forced to close, for various reasons. The COVID-19 pandemic has posed numerous challenges and risks, such as the gathering of people inside buildings. Even something as simple as weather conditions can affect food pantry success. But with a drive thru facility, health and safety guidelines can easily be followed and any effects of weather can be minimized. The Drive Thru Missional Food Pantry will open its doors for food distribution on Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon and will be open every Saturday from 10:30 am to noon.

We are joining #GivingTuesdayNow which is a new global day of giving and unity that will take place on May 5, 2020 – in addition to the regularly scheduled Dec 1, 2020 #GivingTuesday – as an emergency response to the unprecedented need caused by COVID-19. The day is designed to drive an influx of generosity, citizen engagement, business and philanthropy activation, and support for communities and nonprofits around the world.

At a time when we are all experiencing the pandemic, generosity is what brings people of all races, faiths, and political views together across the globe. Generosity gives everyone power to make a positive change in the lives of others and is a fundamental value anyone can act on. It’s a day for everyone around the world to stand together and give back in all ways, no matter who or where we are.

For more than a decade, FHL have trained over 50 food pantries in Central Indiana that resulted in helping people holistically through intentional relationships. Since FHL train and support small to medium-sized neighborhood food pantries, clients are receiving high quality services including referrals to other community resources that could help bring long-term impact.

Providing food for those in need is a noble cause, encouraging people for such a time as this is invaluable and seeing the community come together is a blessing not only now but for the future of our community.

We are participating in #GivingTuesdayNow, to bring about greater awareness of food insecurity and get more involvement in our services through donations and volunteer support. FHL has participated in #GivingTuesday in the past years with success.

Merlin Gonzales, President/CEO of FHL, “is very glad to be involved with the #GivingTuesdayNow program. Our aim is to generate more awareness and support for FHL and other similar organizations. The COVID-19 pandemic posed some challenges, but we are moving forward in spite of it anyway. The drive thru pantry is one way that exemplifies this forward momentum.”

“As a global community, we can mourn this moment of extreme crisis while also finding the opportunity to support one another. We each have the power to make an impact with acts of generosity, no matter how small, and to ensure the sustainability of organizations and services that are crucial to the care and support of our communities,” said Asha Curran, CEO of GivingTuesday. “#GivingTuesdayNow is a chance for us to stand united and use grassroots generosity to show that we are all in this together, beginning to end. Even as many face financial uncertainty, generosity is not about size. From calling an elderly neighbor to chat to offering translation help; from showing gratitude to our healthcare workers to donating to your local food bank, every act of kindness is a beacon of hope in this crisis. We all have something to give, and every act of human consideration and kindness matters.”

Those interested in Faith Hope Love Community’s #GivingTuesdayNow efforts can visit [fhlcommunity.org/#GivingTuesdayNow](http://fhlcommunity.org/#GivingTuesdayNow). For more details about the GivingTuesday movement, visit the GivingTuesday website ([www.givingtuesday.org](http://www.givingtuesday.org)), Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/GivingTuesday>) or follow @GivingTuesday and #GivingTuesdayNow on Twitter.

### **About Faith Hope Love Community**

Faith Hope and Love Community aims to be a catalyst for change by engaging in relationships with food insecure neighbors on their path to self-sufficiency through missional food pantry training. It is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization with a mission to help eradicate food insecurity, end hunger and leverage the power of food to build healthy communities.

### **About GivingTuesday**

GivingTuesday is a global generosity movement unleashing the power of people and organizations to transform their communities and the world. GivingTuesday was created in 2012 as a simple idea: a day that encourages people to do good. Over the past eight years, it has grown into a global movement that inspires hundreds of millions of people to give, collaborate, and celebrate generosity.

#GivingTuesdayNow is organized by GivingTuesday, in partnership with its global network of leaders, partners, communities and generous individuals. GivingTuesday is a nonprofit organization that is dedicated to unleashing the power of people and organizations to transform their communities and the world.

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