

OUR COMMUNITY: NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

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In tough times, **Atlanta shows up for its neighbors**. Stories of unity and collaboration have been an inspiration to us all as we continue to navigate COVID-19, and ChooseATL has been capturing those stories in an effort to amplify the incredible ways our community works together when it matters most. From generous donations, volunteer efforts and innovative new approaches, Atlantans never stop rising.

Many of the resources here are captured within [a thread on ChooseATL's Twitter account](#). We encourage you to follow along for in-the-moment updates.

BUSINESSES

Goodr Combats Food Insecurity with Atlanta Public Schools

Description: Goodr has joined forces with Atlanta Public Schools to provide emergency food to APS students at meal distribution sites during closure.

Link: <https://twitter.com/jasminecrowe/status/1238537853115797505>

Truist Cares Pledges \$25M To Support Those Impacted by COVID-19

Description: Truist Financial Corporation announced its Truist Cares Initiative to support the short-term and long-term needs of communities, clients and teammates in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. A pledge of \$25 million in philanthropic support will aid in supporting basic needs, medical supplies and financial hardship across the nation.

Link: https://media.truist.com/2020-03-17-Truist-announces-COVID-19-relief-measures-for-communities-clients-and-teammates?utm_source=MAC+Investor+List&utm_campaign=97f2a0fbd6-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_03_13_03_49_COPY_05&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_316f7d4b66-97f2a0fbd6-147502309

Kabbage Launches HelpSmallBusiness.com

Description: Kabbage Inc. launched www.helpsmallbusiness.com to support small businesses financially impacted by COVID-19. The initiative is a call-to-action across the U.S., enabling anyone to purchase an online gift certificate from participating small businesses to provide them with crucial financial support.

Link: <https://www.kabbage.com/helpsmallbusiness>

The Giving Kitchen Provides Support to All Regional Food Service Workers with COVID-19

Description: Food service workers in Georgia who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 and/or those who are under doctor's orders for a mandatory quarantine should apply for financial assistance through the Giving Kitchen.

Link: <https://thegivingkitchen.org/help>

The FoodFinderUS Helps Families Find Free Food Assistance Quickly

Description:

The FoodFinderUS App is a safe and secure mobile web application that gives food insecure children and their families a way to find free food assistance programs quickly.

Link: <https://foodfinder.us/>

Fox's "The Resident" Donates Masks to Atlanta Hospitals

Description: Georgia-filmed Fox series, 'The Resident,' donated boxes of production masks, gloves and gowns to Grady Hospital in Atlanta for their medical staff during the coronavirus pandemic.

Link: <https://www.projectcasting.com/news/the-resident-coronavirus/>

Invest Atlanta Launches the Business Continuity Loan Fund

Description: Invest Atlanta has established a Business Continuity Loan Fund (BCLF) with \$1.5 million of funding from the City of Atlanta. The fund will offer small zero-interest loans to small businesses to address a lack of working capital and cash flows as a result of reduced consumer demand, the ability to fulfill product or service orders and other economic conditions.

Links: <https://www.investatlanta.com/business-continuity-loan-fund>

Staplehouse Becomes a Soup Kitchen To Support Atlanta's Restaurant Workforce

Description: Staplehouse joined forces with the Giving Kitchen to launch "The Giving Soup Kitchen" at the tasting menu restaurant on Edgewood Avenue. It's meant to provide meals (at no cost) to out-of-work service industry workers caught in the wake of abrupt layoffs.

Link: <https://atlanta.eater.com/2020/3/21/21189283/staplehouse-giving-kitchen-soup-kitchen-restaurants-feed-atlanta-homeless-unused-food-covid-19>

Uber Provides Discounts to Atlanta Families in Need

Description: Uber announced it will offer a 25% discount for trips to and from food distribution sites until April 10. Uber passengers can use the promotional code "APS2020" to access the discount.

Link: <https://www.ajc.com/news/local-education/uber-offers-discount-travel-atlanta-school-food-distribution-sites/28xMi36vhTN6gZh5TQXpCJ/>

White Oak Pastures Announces #RestaurantRaincheck Giveaway

Description: White Oak Pastures is purchasing gift cards to local Atlanta restaurants to support them during the COVID-19 pandemic. They are giving away several \$100 gift cards and are encouraging residents to support restaurants in other ways as well.

Link:

<https://twitter.com/chooseATL/status/1240718231565893644?s=20https://www.whiteoakpastures.com/>

Six Flags Donates 1,600 Pounds of Food to Local Charity

Description: Six Flags Over Georgia donated more than 1,600 lbs. of fruit, vegetables and dairy to the Center for Children & Young Adults in Marietta amid school closures and quarantines.

Link: <https://www.11alive.com/article/news/health/coronavirus/six-flags-donates-unused-food-charity/85-6087c913-6412-4fd7-9a1c-00c8d1580771>

UPS Provides Logistics Support to Multi-City Testing Program

Description: The White House, through the Rapid-Response Taskforce for Coronavirus Testing Sites, asked UPS to assist with logistics planning and operations to support the opening and regular operation of drive-up coronavirus community-based testing sites in several cities. UPS is ready to assist with transportation support as needed for the community-based testing sites.

Link:

<https://pressroom.ups.com/pressroom/ContentDetailsViewer.page?ConceptType=PressReleases&id=1584390799968-421>

Delta Air Lines CEO Ed Bastian Forgoes Salary Amid Airline Cuts

Description: Delta Air Lines CEO Ed Bastian outlined a number of sweeping changes the Atlanta-based company was going to need to make in light of COVID-19. Among his announcements: Bastian will forego his own salary for six months.

Link: <https://www.11alive.com/article/news/health/coronavirus/delta-ceo-salary-coronavirus/85-c9424dc4-c480-4f20-be7a-de5ad1629860>

Comcast Opens Xfinity Wi-Fi Network Nationally for Free

Description: Comcast is taking steps to implement new policies for the next 60 days, and other important initiatives including Xfinity free Wi-Fi for everyone, pausing data plans, no disconnects or late fees, news and information and 24/7 network monitoring.

Link: <https://corporate.comcast.com/covid-19?linkId=84300755>

Georgia Power Suspends Residential Disconnections for 30 Days

Description: As of March 14, 2020, Georgia Power has temporarily suspended residential disconnections for 30 days and will reevaluate the policy and time frame as the situation develops.

Link: <https://www.georgiapower.com/covid-19.html>

BlackRock Commits \$50 Million to COVID-19 Relief Efforts

Description: BlackRock has committed \$50 million to meet the immediate needs of those most affected by the pandemic, addressing the financial hardship and social dislocation that has occurred.

Link: <https://www.blackrock.com/corporate/newsroom/press-releases/article/corporate-one/press-releases/our-commitment-to-people-and-communities?cid=twitter:blackrock:corporate+communications:n/a:100001197944902&linkId=100000011338590>

Mailchimp Offering Free Standard Accounts

Description: To help communicate public information about COVID-19, Mailchimp is offering free standard accounts to eligible governments, schools, healthcare providers and nonprofits through June 2020.

Link: https://mailchimp.com/covid19-statement/?utm_source=twitter&utm_medium=mc-social&utm_campaign=aoc_engage_product_gwm_channels_wld_&utm_term=&utm_content=

Calendly Offers Free Zoom and GoToMeeting Integrations

Description: Calendly is offering Zoom and GoToMeeting integrations, previously premium tier features, free of charge through June. They will also be providing free premium plan access to teams helping to address the COVID-19 crisis.

Link: https://blog.calendly.com/meeting-integration-update/?utm_source=Social&utm_medium=Twitter&utm_campaign=COVID-19%20Response

Atlanta Startups Using Tech To Fight Coronavirus

Description: As Atlanta cases of the coronavirus continue to increase and the city encourages social distancing to fight the spread, several local startups and companies are using their tech for good to fight the virus.

Link: https://www.bizjournals.com/atlanta/news/2020/03/20/atlanta-startups-using-tech-to-fight-coronavirus.html?ana=brss_628

Sifted Provisions Launches Atlanta Curbside Grocery Pickup Service with COVID-19 Essentials

Description: Sifted Provisions has launched a curbside pickup grocery pack service. They deliver curated boxes of household staples like fresh produce, frozen proteins, grains and COVID-19 essentials.

Link: <http://siftedprovisions.com>

The Home Depot Foundation Partnered with Operation Blessing To Provide Cleaning Supplies to First Responders

Description: The Home Depot Foundation and Operation Blessing provided cleaning supplies to first responders in the local community to help them stay safe.

Link: <https://twitter.com/operationbless/status/1242511779894345728>

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Virtual Reality Conference Transformed Into a Completely Virtual Event

Description: The 2020 conference was scheduled to take place in Midtown Atlanta and adapted to an entirely virtual conference venue within 17 days. The continued support of flagship universities including Georgia Tech, the University of Georgia and Kennesaw State University, as well as the Georgia Department of Economic Development - Center of Innovation for Manufacturing, enabled the conference to transition to an online experience for participants.

Link: <https://twitter.com/gdecdd/status/1244621251164897280>

Feeding Employees and Selling Toilet Paper: How One Atlanta Restaurant Group Is Trying To Survive COVID-19

Description: With thousands of dollars' worth of produce and meats in their fridges, Double Zero and the other restaurants belonging to Castellucci Hospitality Group (the Iberian Pig, Cooks & Soldiers, Bar Mercado, Recess, and Sugo), as well as ones across Atlanta and beyond, handed out free meals to hourly restaurant workers.

Link: <https://www.atlantamagazine.com/dining-news/feeding-employees-and-selling-toilet-paper-how-one-atlanta-restaurant-group-is-trying-to-survive-covid-19/>

Equifax To Work with Lenders and Creditors To Reduce the Impact of the Crisis on U.S. Credit Reports

Description: Equifax is working with consumers and businesses to help mitigate the economic impact of the coronavirus pandemic on their credit scores.

Link: <https://www.marketwatch.com/story/equifax-says-it-will-work-with-lenders-creditors-to-help-reduce-the-impact-of-the-coronavirus-crisis-on-us-credit-reports-2020-03-24>

Aaron's Inc. Donates 100 Laptops to Children

Description: Aaron's Inc. is donating 100 laptop computers to Atlanta-area school children who need the technology to participate in distance learning.

Link: <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/aarons-inc-donates-computers-to-atlanta-children-for-covid-19-distance-learning-301029059.html>

Home Depot To Stop Selling Masks, Donate Them to Health Workers

Description: On April 1, The Home Depot said it will close its nationwide stores earlier each day and promote more vigorous social distancing practices during the coronavirus pandemic.

Link: <https://www.msn.com/en-us/money/other/home-depot-to-stop-selling-masks-donate-them-to-health-workers/ar-BB120RI2?ocid=st>

Delta Flight Products To Manufacture Personal Protective Equipment to Help Healthcare Workers

Description: Working with a nonprofit affiliate of Georgia Tech, Delta Flight Products is delivering an initial order of 2,000 face shields to New York and an additional 4,000 to Atlanta.

Link: https://news.delta.com/delta-flight-products-manufacture-personal-protective-equipment-help-healthcare-workers?mkcpgn=SM_TWIT_AW_20200402

CVS Opens Coronavirus Testing Site in Atlanta

Description: CVS Health announced it is opening a COVID-19 drive-through testing center in Atlanta that can provide patients results within minutes.

Link: <https://www.ajc.com/news/local-govt--politics/cvs-opens-coronavirus-testing-site-atlanta/jsWTuuN2rKvPpeB7kQg7KL/>

Sharecare Partners with Kale Me Crazy To Support Healthcare Workers and First Responders

Description: Sharecare and Kale Me Crazy are partnering to support healthcare workers and first responders. Sharecare will match 100% of all donations.

Link: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-our-heroes-stay-healthy>

ChowDownATL by PREP Is Offering Curbside Pickup, Delivery Options for Prepared Meals

Description: PREP is a culinary accelerator platform that reduces barriers to entry and provides mentorship for food entrepreneurs.

Link: <https://www.prepatl.com/chowdownfood/>

Delta Cargo Charter Operations Keep Global Commerce Moving

Description: As international passenger flights have been reduced due to COVID-19, Delta Cargo launched a charter operation to provide reliable transportation of essential goods on aircraft that would otherwise be parked.

Link: <https://news.delta.com/delta-cargo-charter-operations-keep-global-commerce-moving-0>

Southern Company Gas Commits \$2.5 Million Across Its Footprint To Support COVID-19 Relief Efforts

Description: The Southern Company Gas Foundation, Southern Company Gas and its subsidiaries announced a \$2.5 million investment this year to support COVID-19 relief efforts in California, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia.

Link: <https://finance.yahoo.com/news/southern-company-gas-commits-2-123000792.html>

Coca-Cola Supporting 'One World: Together at Home' Global Special To Help Healthcare Workers on COVID-19 Front Lines

Description: A star-studded lineup of some of the world's top musical artists and entertainers will unite virtually this weekend for "One World: Together At Home", a cross-platform global special organized by Global Citizen in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) to support the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.

Link: <https://www.coca-colacompany.com/news/coca-cola-supporting-one-world-together-at-home-global-special-to-help-healthcare-workers-on-covid-19-front-lines>

Meet the CNN Staffer Who's Essential To Keeping Its Atlanta HQ Running

Description: One of those workers is John Camacho, a senior BTS engineer on the company's broadcast technology services team. He's part of a four-person team that works the day shift at the CNN Center in Atlanta, where he monitors the broadcasting equipment and performs routine maintenance to ensure that the news network's signal continues to reach viewers' homes, even during a nationwide shutdown.

Link: <https://www.hollywoodreporter.com/news/meet-cnn-staffer-whos-essential-keeping-atlanta-hq-running-1289371>

GROUND FLOOR Stimulus Program Launches to Keep Real Estate Development Capital Flowing During COVID-19

Description: Wealthtech platform GROUND FLOOR announced the launch of a new program to ensure capital for residential real estate development continues to flow during the COVID-19 financial crisis.

Link: <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/groundfloor-stimulus-program-launches-to-keep-real-estate-development-capital-flowing-during-covid-19-301038979.html>

The Gathering Spot Co-owners TK Petersen and Ryan Wilson Are Focused on Being Helpful During the Pandemic

Description: Co-owners TK Petersen and Ryan Wilson tell in their own words how they are keeping up morale and trying to uplift entrepreneurship.

Link: <https://www.bizjournals.com/atlanta/news/2020/04/17/atl-on-the-edge-you-don-t-have-time-to-be-gloomy.html>

Relief for Musicians

Description: Musicians impacted by COVID-19 are encouraged to visit <http://musiccovidrelief.com> for CARES Act information and resources available to them.

Link: <https://musiccovidrelief.com/>

Sharecare Releases Compilation of COVID-19 News

Description: Sharecare releases a compilation of the latest news and information about COVID-19, including tips to keep families healthy.

Link: <https://twitter.com/SharecareInc/status/1252317269054623750>

Cox Automotive Hosts Discussion for Auto Dealers with Dale Pollak

Description: Dale Pollak, founder of vAuto, Inc., joins Cox Automotive in a series of live discussions, picking up where his open letter to the industry left off.

Link: https://www.coxautoinc.com/an-open-letter-to-dealers-from-dale-pollak/?utm_source=twitter&utm_medium=social-org&utm_campaign=webinar&utm_content=dale

Chick-fil-A Announces Multi-Million Dollar COVID-19 Community Relief Effort

Description: Chick-fil-A, Inc. announced on April 20, 2020 a relief effort dedicated to helping local franchisees continue their support of those impacted by COVID-19 in the communities they serve.

Link: <https://thechickenwire.chick-fil-a.com/news/chick-fil-a-announces-coronavirus-community-relief-effort>

In Partnership with the U.S. Air Force, a Team of Delta Engineers Is Developing Mobile Hospital Rooms That Will Help Bring Troops Home Safely

Description: The U.S. armed forces will soon use medical pods manufactured by Delta divisions to safely bring home deployed members who have contracted COVID-19 or been exposed to other infectious agents. Teams from Delta's Technical Operations division combined their advanced manufacturing capabilities to begin converting dozens of single-use, 40-foot shipping containers into rapidly deployable, reusable hospital care pods.

Link: <https://news.delta.com/delta-developing-mobile-hospital-rooms-treat-and-transport-us-military-members-covid-19>

Southwire Expands Giving Efforts in Response to COVID-19

Description: In these uncertain and challenging times, Southwire’s long-standing tradition of giving back is stronger now than ever before. In that spirit, we are pleased to announce that we are expanding our giving efforts throughout 2020 in response to COVID-19 with a focus on hunger, education and hope for the holidays.

Link: <https://www.southwire.com/blogs/covid-19-donation>

NONPROFITS AND DONATIONS

United Way and the Community Foundation of Greater Atlanta Create the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund.

Description: The COVID-19 Response and Recovery fund provides immediate support to those most vulnerable to the economic and health-related issues caused by the novel coronavirus pandemic.

Link: <https://secure.givelively.org/donate/united-way-of-greater-atlanta-inc/covid-19-relief-fund>

Food4Life Creates Atlanta Survival Program

Description: In response to the COVID-19 crisis, Food4Life is operating a grocery delivery program to ensure that those impacted by the virus will not be forced to choose between decent foods and their health.

Link: <https://actionnetwork.org/fundraising/support-the-food4life-atlanta-survival-program>

The Atlanta Community Food Bank Launches a “Text for Help” SMS Platform

Description: The “Text for Help” SMS platform assists those who need access to food during the COVID-19 pandemic. Text “FINDFOOD” for responses in English or “COMIDA” for responses in Spanish to 888-976-2232 to get locations near you.

Link: <https://twitter.com/ACFB/status/1240325761090891788>

Red Cross of Georgia Calls for Blood Donations

Description: The American Red Cross says there is a severe blood shortage due to an unprecedented number of blood drive cancellations. They are urging healthy people to donate now to help patients who are counting on lifesaving blood.

Link: <https://www.wsbtv.com/news/local/red-cross-georgia-reporting-severe-shortage-blood-donations/LBKCILWH4JBXZIV6ZMABCLL4IM/>

MUST Ministries Feeds At-Risk Students and Their Families

Description: In order to support increased demand, MUST Ministries is calling upon residents around the region to help in food collection due to COVID-19. Must Ministries is donating the collected supplies to at-risk families and students. They have a list of items needed for MUST Rapid Response Food Boxes and are encouraging monetary donations as well.

Link: <https://twitter.com/MUSTMinistries/status/1238931102573748224?s=20>

Open Hand Atlanta Seeking Donations To Help COVID-19 Victims

Description: A majority of the clients served by Open Hand are elderly or living with chronic or underlying health conditions – groups at a higher risk of seeing the negative effects of the coronavirus. In response to worries that services could be interrupted by the virus and an increased demand as result of the virus, Open Hand has ramped up their production of frozen and shelf stable meals. To help Open Hand meet increased financial demands and provide life-saving services to those who may be affected by COVID-19, the organization is asking for donations.

Links: <https://thegavoice.com/community/covid-19-threatens-open-hand-atlanta-how-you-can-help/>
<https://www.giveeffect.com/campaigns/14473-our-clients-need-your-support>
<https://openhandatlanta.org/>

Hands On Atlanta Calls for Healthy Volunteers To Pack Bags for Students and Families

Description: Hands On Atlanta is rallying the community to help fight food insecurity and tackle our city's most pressing needs during COVID-19. Explore how you can help today and ensure all of our neighbors can thrive tomorrow.

Link: <https://www.handsonatlanta.org/relief>

Lifeline Animal Project, Drive-Through Adoptions at Local Animal Shelter

Description: Lifeline Animal Project has started a new drive-through pet adoption method to keep people who may be interested in adopting or fostering safe. This is available at all three of Lifeline's locations in the region.

Link: https://www.fox5atlanta.com/news/drive-through-adoptions-at-local-animal-shelter-amid-coronavirus-outbreak?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter

Love Not Lost Will Continue To Take Free Photographs for Terminal Patients

Description: Love Not Lost is a nonprofit organization that photographs people facing a terminal diagnosis. During the COVID-19 pandemic, photographers will continue taking photographs for the terminally ill and their families.

Links: <https://lovenotlost.org/> <https://twitter.com/lovenotlostorg/status/1240636559201894401?s=20>

Meals On Wheels Atlanta Delivers 35,000+ Meals a Week to Senior Citizens

Description: Hundreds of volunteers are helping Meals On Wheels Atlanta to safely and efficiently deliver meals to Atlanta's fragile and elderly seniors, with 35,000+ meals per week. Meals On Wheels is accepting donations to help with this process.

Link: <https://twitter.com/MOWAtlanta/status/1241809764243431430?s=20>

A.G. Rhodes Homes Launches Letter-Writing Campaign to Support Residents

Description: As a result of the risks posed by COVID-19, visitors are being restricted from visiting residents at A.G. Rhodes for their safety. With that in mind, A.G. Rhodes put out a call for a letter-writing and words of encouragement campaign with flower delivery options and activity and games delivery options. A.G. Rhodes has been overwhelmed by the positive support.

Links: <https://www.agrhodes.org/ways-to-help/>
<https://twitter.com/AGRhodesHomes/status/1240622671827787784?s=20>

Future Partners with Sewing Style to Provide Face Masks to Hospitals

Description: The rapper behind the 2017 hit "Mask Off," Future is partnering with a sewing organization to provide face masks to hospital workers and patients in a campaign appropriately titled "Mask On."

Link: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/03/28/us/future-face-mask-coronavirus-trnd/index.html>

Hundreds of Metro Atlanta Volunteers Make Masks for Doctors, Nurses

Description: Hundreds of volunteers across metro Atlanta started making the cloth masks at home, for nurses, doctors and other healthcare professionals - creating masks by the thousands.

Link: <https://www.11alive.com/article/news/health/coronavirus/coronavirus-covid19-masks-volunteers-homemade-healthcare-workers-professionals-sewing-cdc/85-324877b3-02c4-42ae-8809-fc002ef1d79b>

The YMCA of Metro Atlanta Is Providing Childcare Services for Medical Professionals and First Responders

Description: YMCA sites across metro Atlanta are ready to provide high-quality childcare services for first responders, medical professionals and those on the frontlines of COVID-19. Registration is now open.

Link: ymcaatlanta.org/firstresponders

Smyrna Partners with Chef Rusty Hamlin To Serve Hot Meals to Families

Description: The City of Smyrna has teamed up with Atkins Park Restaurant partner and executive chef Rusty Hamlin and Smyrna United Methodist Church's Tillman House to serve meals to less fortunate families.

Link: <https://www.ajc.com/news/local/smyrna-partners-with-chef-rusty-hamlin-serve-hot-meals-families/FEs9FEcgRHZALEXMYM0JdP/>

Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation Pledges \$5.4 Million in Recovery Assistance

Description: In response to the COVID-19 global pandemic, The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation announced nearly \$5.4 million in funding for immediate and long-term recovery assistance to organizations providing critical support throughout Georgia and Montana. The Foundation will grant \$5 million to the Greater Atlanta COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund established by United Way of Greater Atlanta and Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta.

Link: <https://blankfoundation.org/the-arthur-m-blank-family-foundation-announces-nearly-5-4-million-in-funding-for-covid-19-relief-efforts/>

Cox Foundation Commits up to \$5 Million to Emory Healthcare

Description: The James M. Cox Foundation announced its commitment to provide up to \$5 million to Emory Healthcare for purchasing COVID-19 testing equipment.

Link: [https://www.coxenterprises.com/news/cox-foundation-commits-up-to-\\$5-million-for-covid](https://www.coxenterprises.com/news/cox-foundation-commits-up-to-$5-million-for-covid)

Cobb Chamber of Commerce, Cobb Community Foundation and Other Nonprofits Announce “Operation Meal Plan”

Description: The Cobb Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with Cobb Community Foundation, the Center for Family Resources and Cobb County’s nonprofits, announced Operation Meal Plan, a small business and nonprofit support initiative created to provide food to those in need, help local restaurants keep their workers employed and provide a vehicle for citizens to help each other.

Link: https://www.mdjonline.com/cobb_business_journal/cobb-chamber-and-partners-announce-operation-meal-plan/article_868827b0-7044-11ea-907a-63d782693b78.html

Georgia Restaurant Association Curates List of Resources for Restaurant Workers

Description: The GRA is fighting hard for the local restaurant industry. In a united effort to keep restaurants open once this pandemic has passed, they are encouraging people to contact their representatives.

Link: <https://www.garestaurants.org/news/covid19>

Sara Blakely Pledges Support for 1,000 Female Entrepreneurs

Description: Spanx founder Sara Blakely announced she will be giving 1,000 female entrepreneurs \$5,000 each as part of her Lucky Red Backpack campaign in order to support female-run small businesses during the coronavirus pandemic.

Link: <https://www.today.com/video/sara-blakely-pledges-5-000-of-support-for-1-000-female-entrepreneurs-81590341931>

James M. Cox Foundation To Donate Meals to Hospital Workers Fighting COVID-19

Description: The James M. Cox Foundation, Wilbur and Hilda Glenn Family Foundation and the Douglas J. Hertz Family Foundation announced a \$250,000 donation to help feed frontline workers serving in emergency rooms, ICUs and critical care wards at 19 Atlanta hospitals.

Link: <https://www.ajc.com/news/local-govt--politics/cox-foundation-donate-meals-hospital-workers-fighting-covid/hASHko9ILGDBMfJvJTVXal/>

Georgia Textile Firms Join Forces to Churn Out Medical Equipment

Description: Multiple manufacturers clustered around the state's textile hub of Dalton — from corporate giants to small outfits and their competitors — said they've shifted increasing portions of their capacities over the past several weeks from making everyday products such as rugs and drapes to producing isolation gowns, masks and other emergency medical equipment.

Link: <https://www.ajc.com/business/georgia-textile-firms-join-forces-churn-out-medical-equipment/XnSTwODF3LcXpvtGpVzLYP/>

Gas South Supports the YMCA of Metro Atlanta As They Respond to Community Needs

Description: Effective Tuesday, March 17, all YMCA facilities are closed in order to protect the safety of our members and our community.

Link: <https://twitter.com/GasSouth/status/1249781762789715969>

Startup Runway Foundation Goes Digital

Description: The Startup Runway Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that introduces top underrepresented founders to their first investors.

Link: https://twitter.com/Startup_Runway/status/1250786158902157318

BET + United Way COVID-19 Relief Fund

Description: BET has established a COVID-19 Relief Fund in partnership with United Way to support and amplify relief efforts in our communities that have been severely impacted by the pandemic.

Link: https://secure.unitedway.org/j/step/bet-covid-19-donate?source=betshowpage&subsource=betcovid&utm_source=betshowpage&utm_medium=web&utm_campaign=betcovid&utm_content=donate

Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms Launches Strength in Beauty Fund

Description: Mayor Keisha Bottoms has launched the Strength in Beauty Fund. The relief fund will facilitate private philanthropic grants to the independent cosmetology workforce as a means of addressing the negative economic impact of COVID-19.

Link: <https://atlstrong.org/>

Mayor Keisha Bottoms Launches the City of Atlanta Senior Food Assistance Program to Support Senior Residents

Description: Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms launched the City of Atlanta Senior Food Assistance Program to support seniors experiencing food insecurity during COVID-19 by partnering with meal and grocery delivery organizations. Seniors who reside in the City of Atlanta and are struggling to receive access to food during this time may apply to be a part of this program

Link: <https://atlstrong.org/seniors-support/>

Atlanta Businesses Are Joining Together To #TakeOutTheVirus

Description: Atlanta businesses are joining together to support local restaurants by reimbursing employees for take-out meals purchased during this difficult time.

Link: <https://www.takeoutthevirusatl.com/>

For #GivingTuesdayNow, First Communities Will Match Every Gift Made to the Atlanta Community Food Bank up to \$275,000

Description: #GivingTuesdayNow support will help the Atlanta Community Food Bank meet the urgent need for food in these uncertain times. First Communities will match every gift -- up to \$275,000 -- to provide three times as many meals to the community.

Link: https://engage.acfb.org/site/Donation2?df_id=8546&mfc_pref=T&8546.donation=form1

Intercontinental Exchange Commits \$10 Million To Support COVID-19 Response Efforts Around the World

Description: Intercontinental Exchange Inc. (NYSE:ICE), a leading operator of global exchanges and clearing houses and provider of data and listings services, announced the names of a number of the organizations receiving grants as part of the company's previously announced \$10 million commitment to those on the front line bringing relief to people in need amid the COVID-19 pandemic. The contributions represent much-needed financial support in each of the 35 cities around the world where ICE has offices.

Link: <https://ir.theice.com/press/news-details/2020/Intercontinental-Exchange-Commits-10-Million-to-Support-COVID-19-Response-Efforts-Around-the-World/default.aspx>

ChooseATL Partners with Usher To Highlight 2020 Graduates

Description: Using the ChooseATL grad frame, graduates can share their favorite school picture and tag @ChooseATL for a chance to be featured.

Link: <https://twitter.com/chooseATL/status/1260641675027898369>

Bank of America Teams Up with YMCA Atlanta To Provide Nutritious Meals to Children, Families and Seniors During These Difficult Times

Description: Bank of America and YMCA are connecting 6,000 children, families and seniors to nutritious food each week; offering childcare for essential workers; and reaching out to thousands of seniors who may be feeling alone and isolated during these difficult times.

Link: <https://twitter.com/atlantaymca/status/1260993830905679872>

Community Foundation Announces \$580,000 in Grants for Arts Organizations Impacted by the COVID-19 Crisis

Description: The Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta announced \$580,000 in grants for 11 arts organizations impacted by the COVID-19 crisis through its Metropolitan Atlanta Arts Fund (MAAF).

Link: <https://cfgreateratlanta.org/2020/05/19/maaf/>

Southern Company Gas Donates \$1M to Morehouse School of Medicine

Description: Southern Company Gas and the Southern Company Gas Charitable Foundation are donating \$1 million toward academic expansion and efforts to provide greater equity in health care led by Morehouse School of Medicine.

Link: <http://metroatlantaceo.com/features/2020/05/southern-company-gas-donates-1m-morehouse-school-medicine/>

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS

Georgia Coronavirus Maps Project

Description: Standard Co has created a series of dashboards to monitor COVID-19 cases across the U.S. The company prides itself on relieving suffering through tech and data and the Georgia dashboard is updated every day at noon.

Link: <https://dashboards.securedatakit.com/public/dashboard/e430d0a4-0135-4211-95f7-0a089582f620>

Old Fourth Ward Distillery Pivots Production, Provides Free Hand Sanitizer to Locals

Description:

Old Fourth Ward Distillery has shifted its production to hand sanitizer during the COVID-19 crisis, offering two free, 2-ounce bottles per person.

Link: <https://www.fox5atlanta.com/news/georgia-distillery-now-dispensing-hand-sanitizer-as-coronavirus-cases-rise>

Love Beyond Walls Distributes Portable Handwashing Stations for the Homeless

Description: As part of their “Love Sinks In” campaign, Love Beyond Walls has created portable handwashing stations across the city. Their initiative is helping bring soap and water to homeless populations, providing them with critical support during this time.

Links: <https://www.lovebeyondwalls.org/>
<https://twitter.com/LoveBeyondWalls/status/1242060959981633537?s=20>

Random (Hospital) Pizza Sending Random Pizzas to Local Hospital Staff

Description: The Random (Hospital) Pizza website was created to support hospital staff as they fight COVID-19 in our local community. Every time someone makes a one-time payment, a pizza will be delivered to a local hospital's front-desk for all staff to enjoy, keeping our medical professionals fed and boosting their spirits.

Links: <https://www.randompizza.io/random-hospital-pizza>
<https://twitter.com/whit4th/status/1240674398069305347?s=20>

Residents in Midtown Cheer From Apartments To Thank First Responders

Description: In Midtown, residents cheered for first responders from their apartments as they worked nearby. Many of the residents are students at Georgia Tech.

Link: <https://twitter.com/GeorgiaTech/status/1241907309804163073?s=20>

Dunwoody Residents Create “Everything Will Be OK” Signs

Description: As concerns over the global COVID-19 pandemic intensify, residents of Dunwoody are spreading a simple message to support their local artists: “Everything Will Be OK.” Yard signs with the positive message have popped up on lawns and windows all over the city of Dunwoody, hoping to show the community’s solidarity in the wake of so much uncertainty.

Link: <https://www.goodmorningamerica.com/living/story/signs-pop-spread-cheer-georgia-town-69749674>

Photo of Atlanta Healthcare Workers Goes Viral

Description: As New York City struggles to keep up with coronavirus, dozens of health care workers from Atlanta boarded a plane to answer the call for help. The flight crew, health workers and others held up their hands in a heart shape for a photo that's getting all the love.

Link: https://www.cnn.com/2020/03/30/us/southwest-airlines-coronavirus-health-care-workers-trnd/index.html?utm_medium=social&utm_term=link&utm_content=2020-03-31T00%3A38%3A07&utm_source=twCNN

Chick-fil-A Thanks Family for Making a Sign for All the Heroes Heading Into Work

Description: Chick-fil-A shares uplifting moments with #TheLittleThings.

Link: <https://twitter.com/ChickfilA/status/1245840942537625602>

Makers Unite to Create PPE for Georgia Healthcare Workers

Description: To help protect Georgia’s front-line healthcare workers, Atlanta-area maker communities have united to create and deliver much-needed personal protection equipment (PPE).

Link: <https://www.atlantabeatscovid.com/news>

“Slices and Strikes” - Hot Meals and Soccer Balls for Local Youth

Description: Soccer in the Streets is providing hot meals for youth in need at Oz Pizza in East Point weekly. It's free to sign up!

Link: <https://www.soccerstreets.org/slices-and-strikes>

Smyrna's Belmont Village Hosted a Neighborhood Graduation Ceremony

Description: Smyrna's Village of Belmont came together over the weekend to celebrate all kinds of proud grads, inspired by a pair of mother/daughter nurses.

Link: <https://www.11alive.com/video/features/neighborhood-graduation-ceremony/85-7e118b2d-0165-4c88-b136-712f60c37d0a>

SPORTS

The Atlanta Hawks and State Farm Partner with Goodr

Description: The Atlanta Hawks and State Farm are teaming up with Goodr to offer two weeks of groceries for families in need at pop-up locations around the region.

Link: https://www.cbs46.com/news/atlanta-hawks-state-farm-team-up-to-offer-two-weeks/article_5f823b86-6dbc-11ea-ad44-e71ecf6607cd.html

The Atlanta Braves Establish \$1 Million Relief Fund

Description: The Atlanta Braves, through the Atlanta Braves Foundation, has created a special disaster relief fund to help gameday workers and certain other affected members of the baseball community with special financial needs that may arise before Braves baseball begins.

Link: <https://www.mlb.com/press-release/press-release-atlanta-braves-establish-1-million-relief-fund>

Matt Ryan To Donate \$100,000 to Atlanta in Wake of Coronavirus Outbreak

Description: Atlanta Falcons quarterback Matt Ryan will donate \$100,000 to help relief efforts in Atlanta in the wake of the coronavirus outbreak. Ryan's donation will be equally distributed to two charitable organizations: the Atlanta Community Food Bank, providing food to those in need, and Giving Kitchen, offering emergency assistance to food service workers.

Link: https://www.espn.com/blog/atlanta-falcons/post/_id/35090/matt-ryan-to-donate-100000-to-atlanta-in-wake-of-coronavirus-outbreak

Atlanta United Hosts Virtual 5-Stripe Friday

Description: Atlanta United and AT&T carry on tradition by hosting a virtual DJ set for its fans.

Link: <https://twitter.com/ATLUTD/status/1243569971365441536>

Hawks Foundation and State Farm Support Atlanta's Healthcare Heroes at Emory Healthcare with Multi-week Meal Program for COVID-19 Caregivers

Description: The Atlanta Hawks, through the Hawks Foundation and State Farm, created a program to provide support and resources to deliver meals for the frontline workers treating COVID-19 patients at Emory Healthcare. The innovative multi-week meal program will bolster the Atlanta restaurant community, allowing local well-known restaurants to re-employ workers who were recently laid off or furloughed due to the financial effects of the COVID-19 situation.

Link: http://news.emory.edu/stories/2020/03/coronavirus_hawks_meals_for_ehc_caregivers/

Caregivers Fifth Pop-Up Grocery from Hawks, Goodr, Atlanta Parks and Recreation and State Farm

Description: The Hawks, Goodr, Atl. Parks and Rec, and State Farm hosted their fifth pop-up grocery store to serve families in Atlanta.

Link: https://www.nba.com/hawks/gallery/fifth-pop-grocery-hawks-goodr-atl-parks-and-rec-and-state-farmr?utm_source=s_h&utm_medium=t&utm_campaign=1920goodr&utm_term=gallery&utm_content=0420

Atlanta United Shows Support for Graduates with ATLUTDGRAD Hashtag on Instagram and Twitter

Description: Atlanta United is highlighting the class of 2020 through #ATLUTDGRAD. Graduates who use this hashtag on their social posts will be featured on the Atlanta United website.

Link: <https://www.atlud.com/atludgrad>

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Morehouse College Establishes Student Emergency Assistance Fund

Description: In support of students experiencing hardship, Morehouse College is asking alumni and friends to support their students with a gift to the Student Emergency Assistance Fund.

Link: <https://ignite.morehouse.edu/project/20382>

University of Georgia MBA Student Creates Facebook Group To Sew Masks for Hospitals

Description: Kayla Hittig (BBA '11, MBA '15) created the Facebook group, "Sewing Masks for Atlanta Hospitals (COVID-19)," to help supply medical masks to local hospitals amidst their shortage. Hittig's goal is to create 400 masks by the end of her first week.

Link: <https://twitter.com/TerryCollege/status/1242457887072555008?s=20>

Georgia Tech Students and Professors 3D-Print Thousands of Rigid Face Shields for Healthcare Providers

Description: Using 3D printers on campus, Georgia Tech professors and students have created thousands of rigid face shields for healthcare providers to protect themselves as they diagnose and treat COVID-19.

Link: <https://news.gatech.edu/2020/03/23/do-it-yourself-medical-devices-protective-gear-fuel-battle-against-covid-19>

The Coca-Cola Company Donates 6,000 Pounds of Plastic Sheeting to Georgia Tech

Description: The Coca-Cola Company here in Atlanta brought 6,000 lbs. of plastic sheeting to Georgia Tech's campus, where students and faculty will use it to make more than 50,000 plastic surgical shields to be donated to local hospitals to battle COVID-19.

Link: <https://twitter.com/GeorgiaTech/status/1244697558217359367>

EmoryTogether Fund Provides Financial Support for Students Affected by COVID-19

Description: To help students remain focused on their educational goals, Emory University formally launched the EmoryTogether Fund — a \$5 million fund designed to support undergraduate, graduate and professional students facing financial hardships as a result of COVID-19.

Link: https://news.emory.edu/stories/2020/03/coronavirus_emorytogether_fund/index.html

Georgia Gwinnett College IT Lab Using 3D Printers to Make PPE for Healthcare Workers

Description: A group of information technology (IT) and digital media experts in the School of Science and Technology at Georgia Gwinnett College (GGC) have found a way to join the fight against COVID-19 by 3D printing PPE.

Link: <https://www.ggc.edu/about-ggc/news/News/georgia-gwinnett-college-it-lab-using-3d-printers-to-make-ppe-for-healthcare-workers>

BestFit Created an Online Tool To Help College Students Displaced by COVID-19 Campus Closures

Description: BestFit is an online portal for college students looking for free/affordable resources in your community (food, health, transportation, financial assistance, etc.).

Link: <https://resources.best-fit.app/>

Morehouse Partners with Microsoft on Initiative to Bridge the Digital Divide

Description: Morehouse College is partnering with Microsoft in a campaign to address the digital divide by equipping newly enrolled students for the 2020-21 academic year with Microsoft Surface 2-in-1 tablets that run Windows 10 and can be used in either tablet or desktop mode.

Link: <https://morehouse.edu/newscenter/morehouse-partners-with-microsoft-in-initiative-to-bridge-the-digital-divide.html>

Clark Atlanta University Philharmonic Society Gathered Virtually via ZOOM to Encourage the Community

Description: As thousands of newly confirmed cases of coronavirus continue to arise across the country, members of the Philharmonic Society put their talents to use to boost morale.

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wj2cZWc2bKU&feature=youtu.be>

Georgia Tech Student Builds a Website that Allows Anyone to Write Words of Encouragement to Be Delivered to Essential Workers

Description: Letters of Love is based on the idea that people do not have to leave their homes to serve their community – all they have to do is go online and type some words of encouragement. Anyone can write a note for Letters of Love. Writers can also specify if they want their letter delivered to healthcare workers, grocery store clerks, mail workers or other essential employees.

Link: <https://www.lettersoflove-19.com/write>

Georgia Tech Alum Create Worlds First Handheld X-ray Device

Description: A Savannah medical startup launched by two Georgia Tech graduates has developed the world's first handheld X-ray device. It could be used by medical professionals for in-home COVID-19 diagnoses, reducing the risk of infection in emergency rooms.

Link: <https://atdc.org/blog/oxos-medical-proposes-deployable-chest-x-ray-device-for-coronavirus-diagnoses-and-monitoring/>

Emory, Georgia Tech and Children's Healthcare of Atlanta Are Partnering to Play a Key Role in a National NIH Program to Fast-track Development of Rapid and Widely Accessible COVID-19 Testing

Description: A trio of Atlanta health care and research institutions will play a leading role in helping to evaluate potential COVID-19 tests as part of a new federal initiative designed to rapidly transform potentially promising technology into widely accessible diagnostic tools to detect the virus.

Link:

https://news.emory.edu/stories/2020/04/coronavirus_emory_part_of_national_program_to_fast_track_cov_id_tests/index.html

Agnes Scott College Creates Yard Signs in Support of Essential Workers

Description: To show support for the hard work of essential staff, teachers and parents during these difficult times, Agnes Scott College placed signs in Downtown Decatur and the City of Atlanta.

Link: <https://twitter.com/agnesscott/status/1258436131714207751>

Georgia Tech Engineering Student Builds Emergency Respirators

Description: A Georgia Tech engineering student delayed his final exams so he and his dad could build emergency respirators. Now those respirators have been fast-tracked by the FDA and are being used to treat patients in New York City.

Link: <https://coe.gatech.edu/news/2020/05/heeding-call>