



May 3, 2015

# Northeast Gateway to Freedom Inc

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**Dear Faithful Friends,** I hope you are enjoying the beautiful weather we are having here in the Hudson Valley. My favorite is all the blooming trees.

This month I would like to pay special tribute to Jesus first and then to all the amazing volunteers of our grocery distribution from its inception to those who carry out this thriving mission today. My gratitude begins with Edward Johnson, one of our first volunteers, who came even in the rain to help sort and pack groceries in the basement of my home. Those were the days we stored our refrigerated items in ice chests and men volunteered from "Transformation Life Center" to help us hold on. Laurie Andrews was assisting me to establish an office at the time when a growth spurt hit us. I



met Anthony & Madeline Espada and grocery donations increased ridiculously. Then by divine appointment, God sent Steve Gerber. Steve catapulted us into another dimension. He delivered groceries, and co-partnered with me for 7 years in ways that words could not explain. Steve and Anthony were there rain or shine, blizzards, sleet or hail. Oh gosh, Steve Gerber and the Espadas were my right and left arms and part of the woodwork for such a long time. I will never forget all the laughs and hard work. You both served with such fervor. With Steve's



help we moved into delivering two days to 60 families a week. Everyone helped purchase refrigerators and freezers and together we stepped up to another level. It is hard to express the gratitude I have for the Espada Family and Steve Gerber. God empowered Steve to help me establish a sure foundation for what we have today. Frank and Sheri Vanasco and Mike and Laurie Clegg enabled us to spread out to the right and left by picking up donated groceries from stores when there was no more of me to go around. These two couples were strong, selfless and so reliable. To this day, the Cleggs show up unannounced to plow my snow. Over and over I am touched by their thoughtfulness. A year after Steve came, Ivonne Garcia, a young single mom (with 4 kids at the time) joined our team of volunteers. What I didn't know was she and her fiancé Rafael



would take on all my grocery pick-ups and even managed the sorting and packing for years to come. Ivonne worked diligently. Her involvement freed me up to move into the KIDZ INITIATIVE. Jose and Maria Castaneda and Bill Duckery tirelessly served the Children's Summer Lunches in 2010. More hands were needed and Vinnie & Roseann Pandoliano walked in and volunteered to



help pack groceries. We were thankful for the season they were here. To this day the Castanedas and Bill Duckery hold down many of the morning pick-ups. Bill Duckery is far more involved than groceries. He is behind the scenes but part of the backbone of our mission. His responsibility list is long and heavy. I don't know what we would do without him. Ivonne Garcia still helps pack groceries a few hours a week while raising 6 kids now. She recruited our precious Juana and her two sons, Anthony and Steven Garcia who have run the Monday and Tuesday mornings for several years. They assisted Ivonne when she was in her pick-up days and now direct and receive groceries deliveries as well as sort and pack them.



**Consider our mission in your Giving**

It's a huge job when those cases of fresh veggies come. There is a lot of sorting to make sure each family gets their share. Juana is a 4'11" powerhouse. I thank God for her and her sons.

When Ivonne had her 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> child, Teresa May (formerly Miserendino) stepped in. Teresa is a true godsend to me. She wears mannnnnny hats. She makes calls, sets up the boxes for each family, keeps the lists, sorts the foods to be kept for the kidz meals and recruits and manages the cooks for the KIDZ INITIATIVE. Daisy, another blessing, worked side-by-side with Teresa for several years. They were the first ones in the door daily, and truthfully I would need a half a page to list all that Daisy and Teresa have done over the years. Teresa's husband Allen slid in and has worked like he was



with us from the start the minute he stepped foot into the mission. I am forever thankful for the three of you.

After 7 years Steve Gerber transitioned out and we thought we



would never find anyone to take on what Steve did. We were right. He has not been replaced. However we are immensely blessed with George Love who, like Bill Duckery, is a silent thread in the mission's fabric. God seems to bless us with these extraordinary people that keep things moving no matter the weather or circumstances. George took Steve's deliveries, Ivonne's store pick-ups and does everything he can to serve the mission where needed. George is a machine with an amazing servant heart; never asks for anything in return and never says no to picking up the slack. George you are appreciated beyond words.



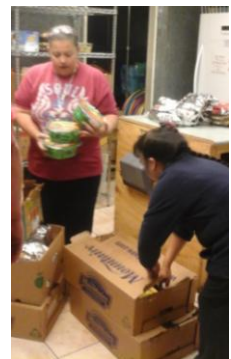
As you can see our grocery distribution is blessed with fantastic volunteers. It takes a lot of arms and legs to run the grocery arm of the mission. Scott Griffin, Nancy Colas and scores of others have stepped in over the years when more hands were needed. This is not even mentioning ALL of our generous suppliers for all their donations of food. I will take another Newsletter to feature each one of them and thank them for their kindness and faithful giving for so many years. Throughout each week there are preparations that make it possible for NGTF to serve the financially challenged families with bountiful boxes of groceries to fill their tables as well as provide meals for the KIDZ INITIATIVE daily. You can see why it is so important to complete the installation of the walk-freezer this year. My heart is forever grateful for how God has and still shows Himself so strong, practical and real everyday to us. He is truly the author of this grocery distribution. May His grocery distribution live on to bless the people in need.

*With A Grateful Heart, Pastor Rosey*

**FILL UP A PIGGY BANK WITH COINS FOR KIDZ.** All proceeds go to the "KIDZ INITIATIVE" Like us on Facebook, visit our website [Northeastgatewaytofreedom.org](http://Northeastgatewaytofreedom.org). Stay current with daily updates. Donations can be made on line from the convenience of your home. N.G.T.F. would not see success in the lives of the next generation as not-for-profit, 501C3 organization without generous people contributing financially like you. On behalf of NGTF & our collaboration of volunteers, thank you for joining us to help transform the youth of our future.

#### **THANKFUL BLESSINGS AND THINGS NEEDED:**

- (1) Thankful for a month supply of juice donated as soon as we ran out by the Meadow Hill Reformed Church. Real fruit juices, no sugar just real fruit, are always needed. Juicy Juice is a great choice.
- (2) We have lots of Barbie dolls with no clothes. Anyone with clothes they no longer need will be a blessing.
- (3) Basketballs, footballs, soccer balls and kick balls needed.
- (4) Thankful for four brand new laptops for the math skills game and the security buzzer for the door from the Bloomer and Monroe family.
- (5) Looking for someone with talent to lead the kids at least once a week in arts and crafts.
- (6) Finish the walk-in freezer upgrade to our refrigeration. Heeeellppp!!
- (7) A vending machine was donated to us. The section with soda needs repair. Looking for a repair person.
- (8) Currently, the mortgage lenders have not agreed to the settlement. They reduced the price of the house to \$140,000.00 and want it in full at this time or we will need to stop doing what we do out of this location.
- (9) Costs for parts and labor to finalize our security system \$350.



**Those who revere the Lord are like a strong tower and He will be a refuge to their children." Proverbs 14:26** Collaborators: American Cleaners, Minard Farms, Guardian Self Storage, Bon Ton, Aglow International, Dutch Sheets Ministries, Hudson Valley Christian Church, ARC, Stairway Ministries Baptist Temple, Triumph Textile & Knitting, His Table Ministries, Simple Gifts & Goodies, Adams, Natures Pantry, Mother Earth, Shop Rite, A & P, Panera Bread, Skonberg Family Chiropractic Care, Windsor Dental, Riverview Pizza, Pine Hill Farm, Clegg Bros, Stewarts, Cornwall Presbyterian, Soho Two, ADR Bulbs, Sorbello Landscaping, Star Quality Painting, Thomas O Miller, Sullivan County Correctional Facility, Little Sisters of the Assumption, & Elozua Studios, Morehead Honda & Hudson Valley Federal Credit Union, Cosmos Pizza, The Pizza Shoppe, Grace Assembly, Brewster, NY Tarsio Lanes, Times Herald Record, Sound of Life Radio and YNN, Warehouse Restaurant, Tredora Beauty Spa Please note our mailing address is PO Box 2187 but our actual location is 104 Broadway Newburgh, NY 12550. No mailing is accepted at 104 Broadway.

## Help Sponsor a field trip

ULSTER COUNTY POOL 60 YOUTH WITH BUS (1 TRIP)	\$300.00
CASTLE FUN CENTER 60 YOUTH WITH BUS (1 TRIP)	\$1260.00
LOCAL SWIMMING AT THE REC (2XS EA. WK FOR 8 WEEKS/ WE WALK)	\$1600.00
WEEKLY BOWLING (1X EA. WK WITH TRANSPORTATION FOR 7WEEKS)	\$1050.00
ARTS & CRAFTS AND ACTIVITY EQUIPMENT	\$1000 -1400.00
TWO OVER NIGHTS WILDWOOD NJ WITH HOTEL AND TRANSPORTATION	\$3500.00
(WE NEVER DID ANYTHING OVER NIGHT BEFORE, 40 YOUTH & CHAPERONES) this amont is bare-bones	