

## Manhattan Family Church's Santa to the Homeless campaign

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December 18, 2020



Unificationists in New York City are filling the shoes of Santa this year, giving away hot meals and necessities to the homeless on Christmas -- and you can help, too! [Donations](#) and [volunteers](#) are needed for care packages that will be distributed around the city on December 25.

"We are living in very tumultuous times and New York City has been one of the most impacted places in the world," said project organizer Stephanie Dias, assistant pastor of the Family Church of New York City (FCNYC). "The COVID-19 pandemic has caused many people to lose their jobs and lose their homes. The city's homeless rate skyrocketed this year and our team wanted to do something to give back and support them during this time."

What was once a thriving top travel destination worldwide quickly dissolved into a ghost town in the months that followed a citywide shutdown in March. New York City became a hotspot of a different kind -- the epicenter of the coronavirus outbreak in the U.S.

"Lots of homeless shelters are at capacity, and their resources are very limited," said Dias. "We have organized a great service project and we're inviting anyone to participate. We are collaborating with youth from the Queens Family Church for this amazing opportunity to give back to our beautiful city."

Volunteers will hand out more than 200 meals and care packages on the streets Christmas Day. New York City accounts for more than 14 percent of the nation's homeless population -- an estimated 80,000 men, women, and children -- according to a 2018 government report. Dias, who is seeking funds from the community through her [Santa to the Homeless](#) campaign on GoFundMe, said her staff is also teaming up with local supermarkets and restaurants for food donations.

"These funds will help in the event that we can't get all of the things on our donations list," she said. "We'll provide not only the meal in the care packages, but also non-perishable snacks, juice boxes, and water, as well as gloves, hand sanitizer, and a reusable mask."

In under a week, the fundraiser has reached more than \$700 of the \$2,000 goal. Volunteers will box all of the care packages at 5:00 p.m. on December 23 at the Queens Family Church in Flushing; then gather at the FCNYC building on 43rd Street in Manhattan at 10:00 a.m. on December 25 to assign the distribution sites.

"We hope that people will donate their time or any monetary amount that they can offer toward this wonderful cause," said Dias. "This is truly what the spirit of Christmas is all about."

You can get involved with the "Santa to the Homeless" service project by donating [here](#), or signing up [here](#) to volunteer.



## Santa to the Homeless

**\$1,145** raised of \$2,000 goal

Share

Donate now

 Manhattan Family Church is organizing this fundraiser.

Created 7 days ago | Volunteer & Service

Hi everyone, we like to announce a wonderful service project taking place during the Holidays for everyone to participate in! This year we wanted to combine and collaborate with Queens Family Church Youth and Manhattan Family Church Youth to create an amazing opportunity to give back to our City.

We are living in very tumultuous times and our city has been one of the most impacted cities in the world. COVID-19 Pandemic has caused many people to lose their jobs and lose their homes. NYC's homeless rate skyrocketed this year and our team wanted to do something to give back and support during this time. Lots of homeless shelters are at capacity, and their resources are very limited.

That is why we are conducting this project and we need your help!

This Christmas Day, we will be making over 200 meals and care packages to hand out to the homeless in New York City. Although we will be working with local supermarkets & restaurants to gather food donations, we have created this fundraiser to raise funds in the event that we can't get all the things on our donations list. In addition, we are raising funds to include masks, hand sanitizers, gloves, etc, in our care packages to keep everyone safe during this time.

We hope that you will be able to donate to any amount that you can offer! Your contributions will be greatly appreciated in serving for a wonderful cause!

Thank you for your interest and we look forward to working with you soon!

Sincerely,  
Manhattan & Queens Family Church core staff

### Fundraiser Stats

**21**  
donors

**0**  
shares

**20**  
followers

**Donate**


**Share**


## Donations (21)


See top

 Olga Tobin  
**\$25** · 8 hrs

 Vicente Saraiva  
**\$30** · 8 hrs


 Junko Woods  
**\$100** · 10 hrs

 Anonymous  
**\$40** · 11 hrs

 Ray Lipowcan  
**\$20** · 12 hrs

[See all](#)

## Organizer

 Manhattan Family Church  
Organizer  
New York, NY  
[Contact](#)

## Comments

Please donate and share words of encouragement.

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## Santa to the Homeless Volunteer Sign up

Hey there! Thank you for your interest in volunteering for this project!

This year we wanted to combine and collaborate with Queens Family Church Youth and Manhattan Family Church Youth to create an amazing opportunity to give back to our City.

We are living in very tumultuous times and our city has been one of the most impacted cities in the world. COVID-19 Pandemic has caused many people to lose their jobs and lose their homes. NYC's homeless rate skyrocketed this year and our team wanted to do something to give back and support during this time. Lots of homeless shelters are at capacity, and their resources are very limited.

That is why we are conducting this project and we need your help!

The project will take place on December 25th, 2020 at 10 AM. Yes we know, it's Christmas, but what better way to celebrate than to spread love and cheer to our fellow brothers and sisters on the streets!

We will be making over 200 meals and care packages to hand out on Christmas Day.

On December 23rd, we will meet up to start prepping and setting up! (This is optional)

We understand that we are still in the middle of a pandemic and will take extra precautions when it comes to battling COVID-19.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact  
Stephanie Dias: [sdias@unification.org](mailto:sdias@unification.org) / (347) 608-0775 OR  
Rei Park: [reipark01@gmail.com](mailto:reipark01@gmail.com) / (646) 306-1926

Thank you for your interest and we look forward to working with you soon!

-Core Staff

\* Required

Name (First, Last) \*

Your answer

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Age \*

Your answer

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Email \*

Your answer

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Phone Number \*

Your answer

---

T-shirt Size \*

- XS
- S
- M
- L
- XL
- XXL

What community are you from? \*

Your answer

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Can you make it on December 23rd for set up? \*

- Yes!
- Nope, but I will see you on Christmas!

Allegories/Dietary restrictions / Other health concerns?

Your answer

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We can provide you with masks, gloves, and hand-sanitizer but we also want to preserve our resources for the care packages! Would you be able to bring these items for yourself? \*

- Yes

~

No

I agree to come on time and actively participate in the project. \*

I agree

I understand if I am not feeling well / have any symptoms of COVID-19 I can not participate. \*

I agree

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