

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



First Congregational United Church of Christ, Hendersonville

ON BEING A VOLUNTEER

One of the most active groups within First Congregational is Service & Giving. This group is known for its careful and deliberate disbursement of funds allocated by our church for the many local, national and global social-justice agencies our church supports. Perhaps lesser known are the volunteer efforts of our congregants in many of our local agencies.

This directory is designed to help you find volunteer opportunities that might fit your own interests and talents. Perhaps you might feel more comfortable if you found someone to share a volunteering experience with? Jesus recognized this when, in Luke 10:1, He said: "After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them out two by two ahead of him into every town and place."

In this directory, we list local agencies that welcome volunteers to help with their outreach. We also provide contact information for the agencies and for FCUCC members/friends who can help you become more acquainted with the important work being done.

***So do yourself and others a real favor.
Pick a pal and go do the work of Jesus.***

***FCUCC Service & Giving Team meets monthly
10 a.m., 2nd Thursday. Join us!***

1735 5th Ave. W. Hendersonville NC 28739

fcchendersonville.org

(Revised 9/2019)

ANIMALS

Charlie's Angels (wncanimalrescue.org) is a western North Carolina non-profit organization of volunteers dedicated to saving the lives of adoptable dogs and cats who would die without our intervention.

Agency contact: 828-885-DOGS (3647), 5526 Hendersonville Rd. Fletcher, NC 28732
info@wncanimalrescue.org

FCUCC contact: Trish LaGrange, 828-692-8494

CHILDREN

Camplify (camplifync.org) uses a series of camp-based and experiential learning programs to teach kids-in-need the life skills required to succeed and become the leaders of tomorrow.

Agency contact: Kristin Dunn, 828-697-2000, **kristin@camplifync.org**

FCUCC contact: Claudia Schopper

Children and Family Resource Center (childrenandfamily.org) focuses on early childhood. The Center is a one-stop resource that connects parents with many local agencies and programs that will teach and empower them.

Agency contact: Linda Carter, 828-698-0674 ext. 14, **lindac@childrenandfamily.org**

FCUCC contact: Pat Argue

CRISIS INTERVENTION

Interfaith Assistance Ministry (iamhendersoncounty.org) is a faith-based, non-profit organization providing emergency relief in an atmosphere of compassion and respect to Henderson County residents who are in financial crisis by offering “a hand up, not a hand out” in the form of food, clothing, funds, guidance, and referrals.

Agency contact: 828-697-7029 x2209, **volunteer.managers@iam-hc.org**

FCUCC contact: Sharon Johnson

WNC Sheep Dog Impact Assistance (sheepdogwnc.org) SDIA was founded by a military professional as a small, flexible and reactive relief force focused on responding to need in a timely and effective manner. The basis for this effectiveness is in its leadership and members — military, emergency and law enforcement professionals.

Agency contact: **josh@sheepdogia.org**, 828-329-5423, 271 Old Barn Rd. #A, Hendersonville 28791

FCUCC contact: Nancy Kaczor

EDUCATION

Blue Ridge Literacy Council (litcouncil.org) is dedicated to transforming lives through improved literacy and English communication skills for adult learners.

Agency contact: Autumn Weil, 828-696-3811, aweil@litcouncil.org

FCUCC contact: Nancy Keswani

Boys and Girls Club of Henderson County (bgchendersonco.org) has the mission “to inspire and enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible, and caring citizens.”

Agency contact: Ismael Martinez· 828-693-9444, ismaelm@bgchendersonco.org

FCUCC contact: Sheila Clendenning

Dream Scholarship (via Henderson County Community Foundation, in partnership with several area churches) Identifies, recruits, and interviews local Dreamer youth as prospective recipients of funds to offset out-of-state tuition charged at NC universities due to their undocumented status.

FCUCC contacts: Pat & Ed Argue

ENVIRONMENT

Conserving Carolina (conservingcarolina.org) protects land and water, promotes good stewardship, and creates opportunities for people to enjoy nature.

Agency contact: Tony Beurskens, tony@conservingcarolina.org

FCUCC contact: Claudia Schopper

MountainTrue (mountaintrue.org) champions resilient forests, clean waters and healthy communities in Western North Carolina.

Agency contact: Susan Bean, 828-258-8737x216, susan@mountaintrue.org

FCUCC contact: Bob Miles

FOOD INSECURITY

Bounty of Bethlehem (thebountyofbethlehem.org) Individuals, businesses, organizations, and religious denominations unite and open their hearts by providing donations to joyfully prepare and serve a delicious homemade meal on Christmas Day to over 2,000 local residents.

Agency contact: Joanne Mummert, 828-702-1467

FCUCC contact: Romella Hart-O’Keefe

Council on Aging/Meals On Wheels (coahc.org) provides and coordinates services to help older adults live independently instead of moving into an institution.

Agency contact: Volunteer Coordinator Christy Zbylut 828-692-4203, czbylut@coahc.org

FCUCC liaison: Phil Taylor

Feed the Kids (feedthekidscoalition.org) is a coalition of 12 churches and the synagogue comprising six teams that prepare and serve hot, nutritious meals to the children of the Boys and Girls Club of Henderson County every Friday afternoon before they go home for the weekend. FCUCC works with two other churches about every six weeks to prepare and serve the meals.

Agency contact: **feedthekidscoalition@gmail.com**

FCUCC contacts: Claudia Schopper, Joyce Tierney

Henderson County Hunger Coalition (HendersonCountyHungerCoalition.org) is committed to relieving hunger in Henderson County by raising awareness of the need and raising funds for hunger-related agencies through the annual Hunger Walk.

FCUCC contact: Ken Whitney

HEALTHCARE

Blue Ridge Health (brchs.com) provides quality healthcare that is accessible and affordable for all. Agency contact: 828-692-4289 **info@brchs.com**

FCUCC contact: Linda Laderach

Four Seasons Hospice Music Therapy and Heart Songs intertwines the inherent power of music with counseling skills to provide holistic care.

Agency contact: 828-692-6178

FCUCC contact: Bill Shaffer

The Free Clinics of Henderson County (thefreeclinics.org) enhances the Henderson County healthcare system to ensure the accessibility of quality healthcare for uninsured, low-income clients. The Clinic provides healthcare, prevention, education, medications access, and case-management services, including specialty referrals.

Agency contact: Mary Patrick, Administrative Ass't, 828-697-8422,

mpatrick@thefreeclinics.org

FCUCC contact: Phil Taylor

St. Gerard House (stgerardhouse.org) assists the families of individuals diagnosed with autism. It provides support, trainings, meetings, and consultations to the families, care-takers, teachers, therapists, and others integral to the life of an individual with autism.

Agency contact: Bertha Medina, 828-693-4223, **bertha@stgerardhouse.org**

FCUCC contact: Claudia Schopper

Planned Parenthood (plannedparenthood.org/health-center/north-carolina/Asheville) provides high-quality, affordable health care, and is the nation's largest provider of sex education. With or without insurance, you can always go to them for your health care.

Agency contact: 828-252-7928

FCUCC contact: Pat Argue

Thrive (thrive4health.org) demonstrates that people with mental illness can successfully participate in society through education, employment, and other social activities

Agency contact: Kristen Martin, 828-697-1581, kmartin@thrive4health.org

FCUCC contact: Nancy Keswani

HOMELESSNESS

Hendersonville Rescue Mission (hendersonvillerescuemission.com) serves the needs of the homeless and needy of our community through temporary shelter and longer-range programs that assist residents with rehabilitation and job searches.

Agency contact: Yam Burke, 828-697-1354

FCUCC contact: Connie Knight

Homes for Youth (homesforyouth.org) has a two-fold program to provide safe, stable, and appropriate housing with positive role models to homeless youth in Henderson County. The Foster Care Support Program in conjunction with DSS is increasing the number of foster care parents in the county. The organization is also establishing a residential home for homeless and displaced teenaged girls.

Agency contact: Kathleen Lambert, 828-551-0537, homes4youthhvl@gmail.com

FCUCC contact: Nancy Kazcor

Only Hope (onlyhopewnc.org) serves homeless youth with emergency and temporary shelter at The Dream Home off Upward Rd.

Agency contact: Michael Absher, 828-693-5499 or 828-513-5022, onlyhopewnc@gmail.com

FCUCC contact: Bill Shaffer

INCLUSIVITY

El Centro Latin Advocacy (elcentrohvl.com) The mission of El Centro is to create a more inclusive community for Latinos, by providing unique services, developing grassroots leaders and working together to access community resources.

Agency contact: Sergio Fernández, Director, 828-290-7134

FCUCC contacts: Pat and Ed Argue

MLK Day of Service is an annual event honoring Martin Luther King co-sponsored by several area churches.

FCUCC contacts: Pat and Ed Argue

PFLAG (pflag.org/chapter/pflag-flat-rockhendersonville) is the extended family of the LGBTQ community, made up of individuals, family members and allies.

Agency contact: 828-697-0690, pflaghendersonville@gmail.com

FCUCC contact: Nancy Kaczor

LEGAL

Pisgah Legal Services (pisgahlegal.org) seeks to pursue justice by providing legal assistance and advocacy to help low-income people in Western North Carolina meet their basic needs and improve their lives.

Agency contact: Katie Russell Miller, Director of Community Engagement, 828-210-3420

FCUCC contact: Ed Argue

VETERANS

Veterans Healing Farm (veteranshealingfarm.org) helps empower veterans reintegrating into civilian life by growing produce, raising farm animals, and conducting seminars on holistic health and sustainability. Much of the food grown is donated to veterans in need via the Asheville Veterans' Affairs Hospital.

Agency contact: Nicole Mahshie, 704-928-6949, veteranshealingfarm@gmail.com

FCUCC contact: Bob Miles

WOMEN

Henderson County Breastfeeding Coalition is a community of individuals dedicated to raising awareness about breastfeeding.

Agency contact: Emily Balcken, 828-698-0674

FCUCC contact: Ann Twiggs

Project Dignity (projectdignitywnc.com) provides feminine hygiene products to women and girls who are homeless, low-income, or victims of domestic abuse.

Agency contact: P.O. Box 6104 Hendersonville NC, dignitywnc@gmail.com

FCUCC contact: Pat Argue

Safelight (safelightfamily.org) is a nonprofit agency that provides support for victims of interpersonal violence, sexual assault, and child abuse. Safelight makes it possible for families who want to be free of violent relationships to succeed.

Agency contact: Ashley Brown, volunteer coordinator, 828-693-3840

FCUCC contact: Claudia Schopper



Our members are also very generous in their outreach with groups other than those currently vetted and/or funded through Service & Giving. The list below reflects a sampling of our volunteer commitments. (FCUCC contact in *italics*, agency contact information in parentheses.)

THANKS TO ALL!

- AARP Tax Aides** - *Debbie Cope, Roger Woolsey* (828-692-8912 Bob Smith)
- Advent Health Hospital Prayer Chaplain** – *Joann Coonrod* (828-681-2159 Shelby Lands)
- ArtScape Hendersonville** – *Connie Knight* (artscapehvl.org)
- American Legion** – *Hilliard Staton* (216 4th Ave W, Hendersonville, NC 28739 828-693-3922)
- Books for Good** – *Sharon Johnson* (booksforgoodinc.com 828-989-4655)
- Blue Ridge Center for Lifelong Learning** – *Sheila Clendenning* (brcll.com)
- Blue Ridge Community College Foundation** – *Hilliard Staton* (blueridge.edu/impact 828-694-1710)
- Blue Ridge Honor Flight** – *Hilliard Staton* (blueridgehonorflight.com 828-776-0650)
- FISH volunteer transport service** – *Howard Carl, Dottie Koopman* (828-693-5100 Jean Hughes)
- Helping Hands Developmental Center** – *Beth Bullock Johnson*
(helpinghanddevelopmentalcenter.org 828-692-7068)
- Henderson County Board of Adjustments-Variiances** – *Roger Woolsey* (828-698-5055 Susan Frady)
- Henderson County Friends of the Library** – *Ann Twiggs* (friendsofthehcpl.org)
- Henderson County Sheriff's Office VIP Squad (Volunteers in Partnership)** – *Hilliard Staton, Roger Woolsey* (828-697-4596 Dale Coerver hcsovip@hendersoncountync.gov)
- League of Women Voters Henderson County** – *Sheila Clendenning, Pat Argue* (lwvhc.org)
- Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America** – *Bob Miles* (momsdemandaction.org)
- Pardee Hospital Foundation** – *Howard Carl* (828-233-2702 Kim Hinkleman)
- Pardee Hospital Volunteers** – *Janet Bostwick* (828-696-4240, Karla.reese@unchealth.edu)
- Saluda Historic Depot** – *Bruce Jayne* (828-674-5958 Judy Ward saludahistoricdepot.com)
- Smart Start** – *Judy Cyphers* (828-693-1580 Erica Woodall smartstartpfc.org)
- Trout Unlimited** – *Bill Shaffer* (northcarolinatu.org)