



Food Donation Option When You Can't Come to ECHO

When donors find it difficult to bring donations to ECHO during our operating hours of 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM on weekdays, or 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings, the option of dropping off food or personal care items at one of the district government offices or retail business sites shown below might be helpful. **Please use these drop boxes only for non-perishable food and new hygiene items. Clothing and housewares must be brought to ECHO.**

Braddock District Gov't Office lobby, 9002 Burke Lake Road, weekdays 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, accessible through the Kings Park Library until 9:00 PM on Mondays and Tuesdays.

West Springfield Gov't Office, lobby of the police station, 6140 Rolling Road, open 24 hours

Cardinal Forest Giant, 8320 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield

Huntsman Giant, 7501 Huntsman Blvd., Springfield

Saratoga Giant, 8074 Rolling Road, Springfield

Springfield Plaza Giant, 6364A Springfield Plaza, Springfield

What About the Weather??

ECHO's Weather Closure Policy has changed. Realizing that the policy of following Fairfax County Public Schools' closures might cause further hardship for clients already trying to cope with difficult circumstances, we amended our practices. With the goal of keeping clients, volunteers, and donors safe, we assess each weather event separately. If we decide to close, we post a notice on ECHO's website, echo-inc.org. Counselors contact those who have appointments to advise them of the closure. Please note that closure of government offices and/or the school system might **not** mean that ECHO is also closed.

Ready to Do Something to Help Your Community? ECHO Has Some Ideas!

ECHO appreciates its hundreds of devoted, enthusiastic volunteers. While we don't have openings for new volunteers in every aspect of work, we do have a few specific jobs for people with certain interests. ECHO is looking for volunteers to fill a position we call Family Counselor. Though it might seem that a background in social work or a related field is required for this job, that isn't the case. A person over 18 who has a willingness to help others can receive the necessary training from an experienced volunteer to be effective in this important position. Another opening exists on our Grant Writing Team. ECHO needs someone to research grant opportunities, write proposals, and work with ECHO's Finance Team to identify programs that could benefit from grant funding. Unlike most other volunteer positions, it would not require a commitment to a regular work shift at our building.

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There's an opening for a Donation Door volunteer on Thursday evenings to assist donors and to issue receipts. Clothing Room volunteers sort clothing donations, organize them on racks and shelves, and assist clients who are choosing clothing during their appointments. Clothing work is done around a big table in a congenial atmosphere of teamwork. ECHO needs a Clothing volunteer to join the Thursday evening group, and one to come in on Monday mornings. Housewares Volunteers also work in teams that share friendly conversation as they assess and organize donations of household goods. Housewares has openings for volunteers on Thursday evenings, Monday mornings, and one Saturday morning a month.

If you are interested in finding out more, contact volunteercoordinator@echo-inc.org by email.

February's Greatest Needs

ECHO's Clothing Room needs sneakers for girls and boys, new underwear for children, men's sweatpants in all sizes, men's jeans in 30" or 32" waists, and men's small and medium winter coats. The Housewares Department is low on blankets and comforters (especially queen and twin sizes), bathmats, shower curtains, and towels. The Food Pantry would welcome donations of condiments such as mustard and ketchup, paper products such as toilet paper and tissues, **instant** coffee, tea, herbal tea, jam, and honey. ECHO is at 7205 Old Keene Mill Road. Our Donation Door is open on weekdays from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM, and 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings.

Thank You CROP Walk!

ECHO recently received a check for \$6,658 from Church World Service as a portion of the proceeds from the annual Burke Fairfax CROP Walk that was held in November. ECHO is grateful to the organizers, the walkers, and the donors for this generous support of our mission.

Upcoming Dates to Note

February 3 - Saturday Opening
February 14 - Executive Committee meets
February 19 - Closed for Presidents Day
February 26 - Board of Directors Meeting
March 2 - Saturday Opening
March 18-20 - Change to spring and summer clothing
March 28 - Closed in the evening
March 29 - Closed for Good Friday

For more information about ECHO on the following topics, please click the links to our website:

[Find us on Facebook](#)

[Donate Money](#)

[Needed School Supplies](#)

[Tips on Holding a Donation Drive](#)

[ECHO's Amazon Wishlist](#)