GOOCHLAND CARES
Free Clinic and Family Services

and I Care!

GOOCHLANDCARES.ORG

SPRING 2021

A PLEASURE TO SERVE

County-wide coordination serves neighbors in need

"It's been a pleasure."

That's how Fire-Rescue Chief Eddie Ferguson describes the last 12 months. Huh? Has he been dealing with the same pandemic as the rest of us? Of course, he has. And he is right on the front lines. Chief Ferguson, Deputy Chief Mike Watkins, and other members of Goochland Fire-Rescue and Emergency Services come to GoochlandCares every day, Monday through Friday, to pick up food from the Food Pantry. GoochlandCares staff and volunteers pack bags with food, personal hygiene items, and cleaning supplies. Chief Ferguson and his team deliver to GoochlandCares clients and others in the community who are not able to make it to our facility given current circumstances.

The effort is part of the Goochland Community Citizen Task Force created last March at the beginning of the crisis. In addition to Fire-Rescue and Emergency Services, the Sheriff's Office, and GoochlandCares, the Task Force includes Social Services, Public Schools, Chickahominy Health District, YMCA, and Rotary*. According to Paul Drumwright, Goochland County Administrative Services Manager, "In true Goochland fashion, all these organizations and agencies have come together to cooperatively address the needs of our community through the best use of resources during the COVID-19 pandemic, while avoiding duplication of efforts." Task Force members plan to continue collaborating even when things return to "normal." Chief Ferguson says, "It's so nice meeting people in the community, making sure they have what they need, and keeping in touch with them."

Sergeant Shawn Creasey of the Sheriff's Office agrees. He delivers prescription medicines and food to GoochlandCares clients and others. Many are elderly, have disabilities, don't drive, don't have access to transportation, or have health issues and cannot risk going to the pharmacy or grocery store. Starting on March 27, 2020, just two weeks after shut down, Sergeant Creasey began deliveries with over 30 families. He and his fellow deputies continue to bring food and medicine to 10 families on a regular basis.

**For the complete list of Task Force members, go to www.GoochlandCares.org/task-force.*

Did you miss our March 11 virtual event with Dr. Koci, Dr. Franck and Sally Graham?

The Hammer, The Dance, and The Shot
Covid-19 vaccines: Our best shot at back to "normal"

Check it out on our YouTube channel at:
www.bit.ly/GoochlandCaresVirusVariantsVaccines

ESPECIALLY NOW

Help ensure the future

When my wife Jan and I became donors and volunteers at GoochlandCares, we knew how much the support GoochlandCares provides means to our community. 2020 certainly reminded us of that. What we did not anticipate is how much our involvement would mean to us. Supporting the work of GoochlandCares is one of our most deeply gratifying experiences and one we will continue through a planned gift.

I hope you will consider joining us by establishing your own legacy through the **Mary Ross Reed Society**. The Society honors the compassion and efforts of one of the founders of what would eventually become GoochlandCares. It also acknowledges the commitment of those who make provisions for GoochlandCares in their will or estate plan.

Together, we can ensure the future of this organization.

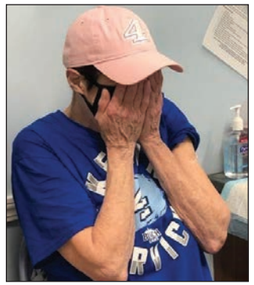
I would love the opportunity to discuss the **Mary Ross Reed Society** with you. Please reach me at 804-305-0782 or visit www.GoochlandCares.org/planned-giving.

With gratitude and best wishes for a healthy 2021,

Keith Reynolds

GOOCHLANDCARES VACCINATES CLIENTS

In coordination with the Chickahominy Health District, GoochlandCares is vaccinating approximately 100 clients per week. “On February 11, we began with clients 75 years old and up. Now we are now beginning to vaccinate eligible clients 65 years and up,” says Adina Keys, Clinic Director. Staff and extra volunteers are helping with scheduling appointments, parking, registration, inoculations, and monitoring clients post-vaccine. Sally Graham, executive director says, “It’s logistically challenging, but we are thrilled to get these clients, some of our most vulnerable neighbors, vaccinated.”



One client, Frances Childers, said, “I’m so happy. I just know I’m going to cry!” And she did.

Vaccinations will continue until all eligible GoochlandCares clients and other high-risk Goochland residents referred by the Health District, have received both shots. “We expect to have 500 at-risk adults fully vaccinated by mid-April,” says Director Keys.

Have you been vaccinated?

To register, call the Virginia COVID Information Center.

1-877-VAX-IN-VA (1-877-829-4682)

or visit: **www.vaccinate.virginia.gov**

See our informative YouTube video at:

www.bit.ly/GoochlandCaresVirusVariantsVaccines

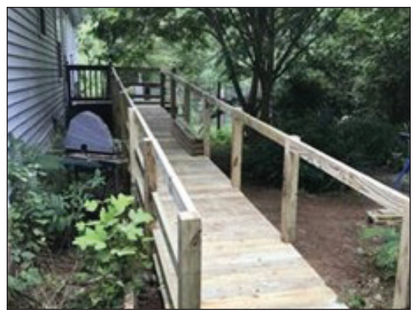
CRITICAL HOME REPAIR SERVICES EXPANDING

The Critical Home Repair program tackles safety issues such as leaky plumbing, rotting floorboards, and damaged roofs. The list of clients needing repairs to make their homes safe and healthy is long. But for the past few years, the budget has fallen short, usually running out before the end of the year. 2021 will, hopefully, not follow that trend.

GoochlandCares Board of Directors unanimously voted in February to earmark significant additional funds for Critical Home Repair and to approve taking on larger scale projects like digging wells and installing septic systems and foundations.

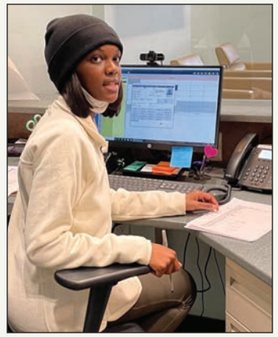
The average cost of a well is over $5,000. Septic systems range from $5,000 to $20,000. Foundations start at $20,000. The income threshold for an individual GoochlandCares client is $25,760 or less and $53,000 or less for a family of four. It is easy to see how these critical projects are out of reach for them.

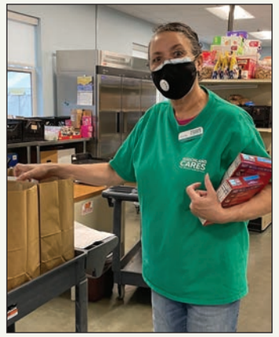
Critical Home Repair program coordinator Angie Shiflett is pleased to report that, since February, one well project has been completed, and one septic system and two foundations are underway.

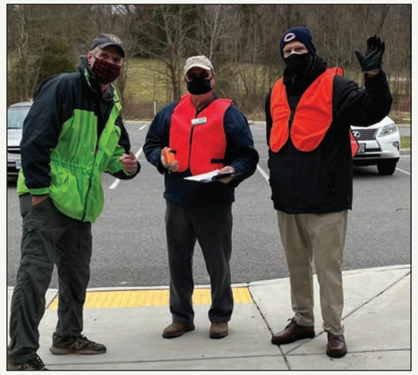


NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

Volunteers safely help in Food Pantry, Clothes Closet, Vaccine Clinic & Facilities







VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Interested in volunteering? Our most immediate need is for volunteers in the Clothes Closet and Food Pantry. We also need volunteers to pick up food donations from local grocery stores.

Join us to work with a friendly team of volunteers and staff while helping our clients. If you have 2-3 hours a week, every other week, or once a month to volunteer, please contact Diane Reale, dreale@GoochlandCares.org or 804-556-0712.

Genworth

Capital One

CORPORATE TEAMS VOLUNTEER VIRTUALLY

Although corporate teams have not been able to volunteer on site, some have offered to share their expertise virtually. GoochlandCares took advantage of two such opportunities with skills-based volunteers in Human Resources and Branding.

A Capital One Branding Team, including Anya Mills, Nikki Hanger, Kyle Anderson, MacKenzie Thornhill, Logan Boggs, Matthew Betts, and Ryan Seibold, spent over 200 hours reviewing and refreshing GoochlandCares branding materials. The result is an updated color palette, logo treatments, and templates.

Peter Haenlein, a Talent Development Specialist at Genworth, led staff in “Crucial Conversations.” Twenty-three staff members participated in 10 hours of workshops aimed at improving communication. The series was made available to GoochlandCares at no charge through a grant from Vital Smarts. Peter first learned about GoochlandCares when he volunteered with his team onsite in 2019.

GOOCHLAND CARES
Free Clinic and Family Services

2999 River Road West
Goochland, Virginia 23063

Family Services: 804-556-6260
Clothes Closet: 804-556-0202

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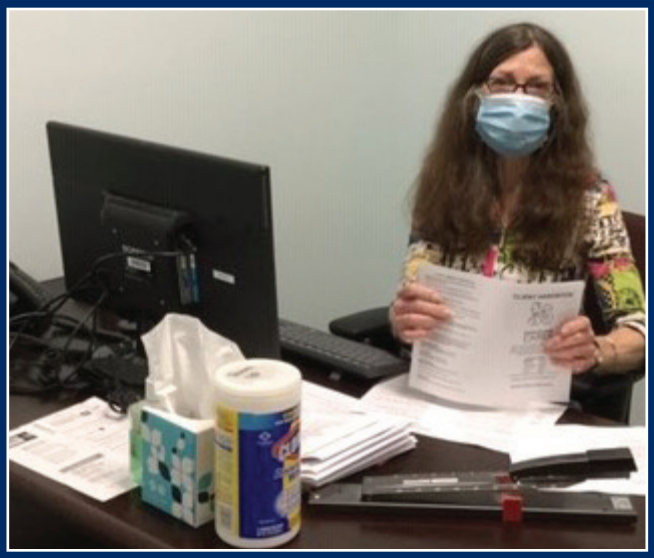
Richmond, VA

DONATE securely online at
GoochlandCares.org

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



"I am so grateful to be able to help."

Diann Russell is passionate about volunteering. Before coming to GoochlandCares, she volunteered at St. Joseph's Villa and Make A Wish. Then Diann attended a GoochlandCares Building Bridges of Hope event and was "forever changed." After hearing clients tell their incredible stories of survival and resilience, Diann said she knew she had to do something and be a piece of the puzzle. "We take so much for granted. Volunteering offers me a chance to give back."

Diann started with assisting in Registration. She has added a weekly commitment in the Food Pantry. She also helps clean and organize the Emergency Housing units to create a comfortable environment for clients. "When they come to GoochlandCares, they know they've come to the right place." Recently, Diann has worked as a patient navigator at the GoochlandCares vaccine clinics.

When she's not volunteering, Diann enjoys being outdoors especially at local scenic spots like VMFA and Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden. She loves spending time with friends and looks forward to being able to see them in person soon.

Diann misses seeing clients' smiles when they realize that things are going to be OK. She can't wait until it is safe for them to be in the building again. "This is my passion."

To learn more about volunteering at GoochlandCares, contact Diane Reale, dreale@goochlandcares.org or 804-556-0712.