

[Above] A service project is to be held at DG Jimmie's District Conference on Friday, April 23, 2021. This is something that every club can participate in including our Rotaractors and Interactors. We are joining efforts with Meals of Hope and we aim to package 40,000 or more meals that will go back to our own communities.

## **STEPPING UP TO HUNGER – SPOTLIGHT #1**

*By Pamela Kreis, Chair, Hunger Relief; RC of Ellicott City* 

Our first SPOTLIGHT is to announce a service project to be held at DG Jimmie's District Conference on Friday, April 23. This is something that every club can participate in including our Rotaractors and Interactors.

We are joining efforts with Meals of Hope and we aim to package 40,000 or more meals that will go back to our own communities. It's up to you.

In simplest terms, your Call to Action is to decide: 1) If you want to participate; 2) Where in your community you want to donate your packed meals; and 3) How many meals you want to pack.

Participation – this can be a club service project and can be done alone or as a joint project with one or more of the Rotary clubs you support (Interact, Rotaract, Rotary alums). Consider thinking of outside partners.

Where to donate in your community – Look around, there are food banks, church pantries, pop-up food pantries, homeless shelters and more. Your meals can go to more than one location. You will be taking the meals back to your community after the event! How many meals – here are some numbers to help. In a two-hour session, it takes 10-15 volunteers to pack 5,000 meals on one assembly line. At \$0.25 per meal, you would need to raise \$1,250 between now and April. The number of volunteers and meals are just an example. You can go bigger or smaller.

Just think, if 60 clubs raised \$500, there would be \$30,000 to use to package 1.2 million meals. WOW. Whatever your club can do will make a difference in relieving hunger. We have a total of 107 clubs in our District with Interact, Rotaract, Satellite, and e-Clubs.

We will be selecting one or two of the meals shown at <u>https://mealsofhope.org/meals/</u>. It all depends if our total is 40,000 or more meals. All clubs will package the same meal or meals.

During the packing for the service project, we will be observing the appropriate Covid precautions in effect in April. If we have a virtual conference, we will ship materials to various areas in the District to hold local packing assembly lines.

More details will come your way by email. If you are interested in participating, let Chair of Hunger Relief, Pam Kreis, know at <u>kreisp@</u> <u>verizon.net</u>.



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