

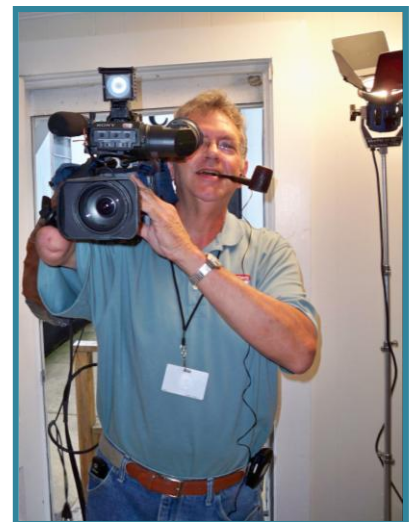
The Partnership to End Homelessness: News14 Carolina films a story about our Non-Food Drive.



News14 Reporter Ed Scannell interviews Patricia Waters, Geri Epps and Kristin Weldon

On May 1, a news crew from News14 Carolina came out to the Servant Center to interview AmeriCorps members from the Partnership to End Homelessness about the *NonFood* Drive we are doing for National AmeriCorps Week. They came out bright and early Friday morning and Gregg Pell set up their satellite feed while Ed Scannell finalized the informational details for the "supers" that would accompany the story. Ed interviewed member Patricia Waters for the live feed in the room where we have displayed the *NonFood* items that have already been donated. After the live interview was finished, Ed interviewed Patricia, member Geri Epps, and site supervisor Kristin Weldon for his longer piece that will be on air for the next 24 hours and which can be seen at: http://www.news14.com/content/top_stories/608614/drive-aims-to-provide-items-to-homeless/Default.aspx?ap=1&Flash.

All of the AmeriCorps groups in NC are doing a drive of some type in association with National AmeriCorps Week's "AmeriCorps Drives for Service." Some are driving for books, some for school supplies, some for food, etc. The Partnership to End Homelessness specifically chose to drive for those everyday necessities that people cannot purchase with Food Stamps. Food Stamps are great, but Food Stamps are only for food. You cannot buy toilet paper or shampoo or soap with Food Stamps. With more and more people needing to rely on Food Stamps after facing job cutbacks, more and more people are realizing there are necessities that they just can't afford to have anymore. This drive is designed to bring in only those necessary everyday items, items that rarely ever get donated, to help the people who cannot afford them otherwise. Try to imagine your life where you have no toilet paper or toothbrush or laundry detergent or deodorant or soap. We take it for granted that these things will always be available to us in our homes. But for some people, they are simply unaffordable luxuries. We hope this drive will provide them with the items they need and fill the gap left by the Food Stamps.



News14 Photographer Gregg Pell