



Pledge My Check

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RALEIGH, N.C. - Feb 11, 2021 -- Do you know the sheer panic that comes with losing your job and not having the means to pay tomorrow's bills? Many in the community today are suffering from the effects of 2020, and neighbors are going above and beyond to offer support.

Across the country, hundreds of people are choosing to pass their stimulus check along to neighbors who are out of work and local organizations who are struggling because of the pandemic. Over \$250,000 has been pledged across 32 states. Hugh in Arizona pledged \$1,200 to St. Mary's Food Bank: "I pointed out to my 12-year-old son that several of the cars in the food line were the same make and model as ours, and only the timing of this tragedy kept us from being in that line ourselves. I know the sheer panic that comes with not having the means to pay all of your bills."

PledgeMyCheck.org encourages individuals in financially stable positions to donate their stimulus checks. While many rely heavily on stimulus checks, those that are in stable financial situations can change lives by passing their check along to a neighbor or organization that is not as stable. PledgeMyCheck.org does not handle the money directly or accept donations, but instead encourages individuals to give directly to people and organizations that they know and trust.

The initiative started when a group of volunteers in Raleigh, NC became passionate about the idea of supporting organizations and people who are in need. The group began volunteering in April 2020, and almost \$300,000 has been pledged. What makes PledgeMyCheck.org unique is that it's not promoting any one cause specifically. Pledge recipients vary from major nonprofits and food banks to individuals on our community's front lines.

"Our community organizations have been hit hard this past year," said Jordan Bowman, leader of [Journeymen](#), a North Carolina based nonprofit. "Someone heard about Pledge My Check on the local news and pledged \$1,200 to Journeymen. That anonymous donor sponsored a year of group mentoring for our young adults. Life changing!"

"Our community is best served when we band together and support each other. My family is weathering this well and wants to support others," says a good samaritan who pledged \$1,000 to Lee's Summit in Missouri. Kirsten, who donated \$1,200, shared, "My husband and I decided to donate 50% of our total checks. We've made monthly gifts to several organizations."



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PledgeMyCheck.org records and displays recent pledges with full anonymity or first names only to protect privacy. Co-creator Ryan O'Donnell said, "This project is all about bringing out the best in our communities," and lead designer Bethany Faulkner describes the site as "a bulletin board of generosity with people telling us where they've donated and why."

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