**Ohio Southern Baptist Churches helping their communities during the COVID 19 Pandemic:**

April 15, 2020

Calvary Baptist Church, Blanchester, Ohio

We have about 6 volunteers currently packaging food to our food pantry for 20-25 folks per week consistently. Giving the gospel message to all who receive food as well as encouragement. Our little town is very still and quiet at the moment and we have offered to the community help if needed. God Bless.

Pastor Steve Cole

My name is **Chris Schwab** and I'm with **Gateway Church Downtown Cleveland**in the Cleveland Hope Association.

* We have sent volunteers to help Cuyahoga County collect and distribute PPE. I personally have been rehabbing old PCs to get them in the hands of students and faculty without a reliable device to continue their education. Some members are making masks and distributing them to members/attenders in need but also to healthcare professionals.
* We haven't really kept stats of any kind. I don't know of any gospel presentations at this time. We've probably had 8 volunteers so far, totaling maybe 50 hours.

Tony Loseto, Pastor Gateway Church Old Brooklyn

* **We have developed a relationship over the years with our Development Corporation through whom we were connected to the Senior Citizens Resource Center in our neighborhood.**
* **We, with other volunteers, were preparing hundreds of bags of produce for giving away to senior citizens of Old Brooklyn**

We had a total of 5 volunteers. Total hours worked—3

* Ty Waardenburg with Trinity Church in Mentor, part of the Cleveland Hope Association, and I wanted to fill you in (per Darrin Avery's request) about some of the ministry activities recently as it relates to Coronavirus pandemic.
* Much of what we have done has been somewhat organic and numbers are hard to calculate. I will give you a picture of some of our activities:
* We delivered lunch to over 20 workers at the Lake County Health District.
* We will also be delivering more meals to local first responders along with over 30 thank you cards created by kids in our church through our kids’ ministry (if I had to guess, I would say about 8 families participated in this).
* A team of 9 seamstresses have created 970 handmade masks, delivered to Beachwood Police Department, 9 Lake County nursing homes, volunteers for school meal distribution, and Cleveland Clinic front liners. We are also creating 300 more for Lake West Hospital.
* We encouraged our church through something called Lake County Take Out, to support local businesses and restaurants every Friday night. We have received responses and contact from a couple restaurants thanking us for this and what it means for them to have us supporting and encouraging them. One even told us that anyone from Trinity that comes can get a discount, allowing us to share and have an easy door for talking to people at the restaurant. (a couple pictures with people from our church taking photos with people from restaurants attached).

