

Stuff the Bus! To help ECHO collect food for the most vulnerable in our community, Fairfax County Government, Giant, and MV Transportation, Inc. will conduct a Stuff the Bus event on Monday, February 19, 9:30 am to 4:30 pm at the Cardinal Forest Giant, [8320 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield](#). Look for a Fastran Bus in front of Giant where volunteers will be accepting non-perishable food donations for ECHO. Bags of some of ECHO's most-needed items will be available for sale in the store already packed and priced for donors' convenience beginning in the days before the event.

ECHO's Food Pantry is currently in need of brown paper grocery bags! We use them instead of plastic bags because they stand upright on rolling carts as volunteers fill them with canned and boxed food from the shelves. Paper bags are essential to the way volunteers organize and distribute food. Please think of asking for "paper" the next time you shop and tuck those bags into your donations for ECHO. The most needed pantry items right now are vegetable oil, spaghetti sauce, jelly, juice or milk boxes, adult pain/flu OTC medicine, and detergent.

ECHO is now limiting acceptance of computer donations to laptops only. We can no longer accept desktop computers, monitors, mice or other non-laptop peripherals. Limited storage space compels ECHO to make this change. ECHO also currently needs large pots, AA, C and D batteries, packs of #2 pencils, crayons (24 box), children's winter pajamas and children's tennis shoes (sizes 3-6). We are open on weekdays 9:30 am to 12:30 pm, and 7:00 to 9:00 on Tuesday through Thursday evenings at [7205 Old Keene Mill Road](#).

Enjoy working outdoors? Looking to volunteer in the community? Combine those interests by helping ECHO with mowing, trimming, and general landscaping duties. ECHO is looking for a number of folks to help keep our landscaping neat and tidy, as a group, or working solo. If you are interested, please e-mail volunteercoordinator@echo-inc.org to get details.

Food Drives

February - Abiding Presence Lutheran, St. Mark's Lutheran

March - Prince of Peace Lutheran, Springfield Christian, Springfield United Methodist

Upcoming Dates to Note

February 3 - Saturday opening

February 19 - Stuff the Bus at Cardinal Forest Giant

February 19 - ECHO closed for Presidents Day

February 21 - Bd of Directors meet, 7:30, St. John's UMC

March 3 - Saturday opening

March 16, 19 - Clothing changeover to Spring/Summer (no clothing appointments)

March 29 - Closed evening only

March 30 - Closed for Good Friday