A NOTE FROM OUR FOUNDERS:

Invisible Hands began in March 2020 as COVID-19 began to descend upon New York City. Recognizing the emergent need among vulnerable communities, we quickly began recruiting friends to volunteer and deliver to the elderly, immunocompromised, sick, people with disabilities, and people experiencing food insecurity. About 72 hours after we launched, we had recruited over 1,300 volunteers.

Stunned and amazed by this outpouring of community support, we acquired our 501(c)(3) status, successfully received funding from some of the biggest New York foundations, and partnered with food pantries, mutual aid organizations, and religious institutions throughout the city.

The impact Invisible Hands has had on our community extends beyond the quantitative metrics, however, reaching the deeper, unquantifiable hunger of social isolation. Invisible Hands is not merely a transactional delivery service, but also an active proponent of social engagement in an era of physical distancing.

Over the summer, we received an email from a woman in Michigan. Her eighty-three year-old father lived alone in Manhattan and had been diagnosed with COVID-19. Isolated, he had no way of getting food. His daughter heard about us on Good Morning America and submitted a request on our website. Our volunteer started delivering food and medicine to her father once a week. Then they'd sit on either side of his door and chat. They never once saw each other; neither would have recognized the other if they passed on the street. But they became friends. His daughter said:

“My father was lonely and afraid. But you made it possible for him to live as normal a life as possible. Although my father has passed from COVID-19, please know that your help was not in vain and that he spoke so highly of you and the help, reassurance, and relief that you provided.”

The spirit of service lies within all of us. Invisible Hands has shown that, even as the world pulls us apart, it is still possible for us to pull together -- in fact, it is only by pulling together that we will pull through. Thank you for your contributions to this mission over the past year: be they of time, finances, or words of encouragement. We couldn't have done it without your support.

Sincerely,

Liam, Simone, and Healy
Co-Founders, Invisible Hands

INVISIBLE HANDS
OUR FIRST YEAR

MARCH 12
Invisible Hands begins as a Facebook post

MARCH 15
Invisible Hands makes its first delivery

MARCH 25
Invisible Hands Deliver Inc. is officially incorporated

MAY 5
Invisible Hands receives grant from the Robin Hood Foundation

JUNE
Invisible Hands begins partnering with food pantries and free food providers

JULY 13
Invisible Hands receives tax-exempt status

OCTOBER 5
Invisible Hands begins delivering absentee ballots in New York and New Jersey

OCTOBER 20
Invisible Hands hosts first fundraiser

DECEMBER 1
Invisible Hands featured on MSNBC (Andrea Mitchel Reports) for Giving Tuesday
Invisible Hands began back in March 2020 as a Facebook post - an offer from three twenty-somethings in New York City to help neighbors in need by picking up groceries as the COVID-19 pandemic began to spread. One year later, we’re proud to serve all five boroughs of New York City, Long Island, Westchester, Philadelphia, parts of New Jersey, and Atlanta. Thank you to our volunteers, donors, and community partners for helping us reach so many folks in need.

WHERE WE SERVE

“I cannot thank you and Invisible Hands enough for delivering my Passover Seder meal. Passover is my favorite holiday of the year. I love the ritual of gathering with friends and family and retelling the story of our Exodus from Egypt. No Jew is supposed to be alone on Passover. Thanks to you, I won’t feel alone.”

- Eileen, NYC
2020 Media Mentions

We were fortunate in 2020 to receive the following media attention, which helped raise awareness and propel our mission forward. Click on each logo to view the full story!
"Thank you again for your help. I hope you know how much it means to us 'olders'. Actually brings tears to my eyes just knowing you are there."

- Recipient, NYC
2020: BY THE NUMBERS

Here are some highlights from our first fiscal year. We are doing even more in 2021, so be sure to follow us on social media for the latest updates!

11,878
Deliveries

2,500
Food Pantry Deliveries

>800
Mutual Aid Grocery Orders

12,000+
Volunteers in Our Network

311+
Zip Codes Served

$30,000+
Given in Food Subsidies

Check out this video from May 2020 featuring our incredible volunteers as they complete deliveries throughout their communities!

Video/editing credits to Stebs
Thank you to our wonderful partners!

NYC Tough

St. John's in the Village

Robin Hood

New Immigrant Community Empowerment

Weil

Lemontree

The North Face

NY Common Pantry

West Brooklyn Waterfront Mutual Aid

K-WT Mutual Aid

North Brooklyn Angels

The Giving Back Fund

The Jewish Board

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church/Sunset Park Mutual Aid

Helping Hands
Invisible Hands is proud to have served our community during this critical and unprecedented time of COVID-19. But once the pandemic abates, the racial and economic disparities unveiled and exacerbated by this disease will still pervade our community. One in four New Yorkers is food insecure, and many people experiencing food insecurity do not go to food pantries for a variety of reasons: stigma, safety, and distance, to name a few. Providing free grocery and food pantry deliveries will fill an important need in enhancing food security well beyond the current crisis. In this for the long haul, we are relentlessly building new partnerships with food pantries, mutual aid groups, and religious institutions, particularly those that serve underrepresented or marginalized communities, to deliver free food to people in need and address the long-term injustice of food insecurity in New York and beyond.

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Invisible Hands Deliver Inc. is a project of the Giving Back Fund, EIN 04-3367888