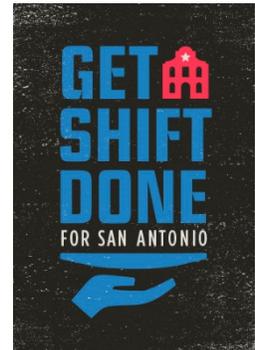




United Way of San Antonio
and Bexar County



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Brandy Moore-Rodriguez, mobile: (210) 204-9277, bmoore-rodriquez@unitedwaysatx.org

“Get Shift Done for San Antonio” Initiative Launched
Food Service Shift Workers to Provide Assistance to Nonprofits During COVID-19 Crisis

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS (May 11, 2020) –The Get Shift Done for San Antonio initiative, www.getshiftdone.org/sanantonio, was launched today to employ affected hourly workers in the hospitality industry to perform shifts for nonprofit organizations providing food for people in need during the COVID-19 crisis.

A large number of workers in the food and beverage hospitality industry are currently in need of work. Get Shift Done for San Antonio is serving Bexar County and surrounding communities, including New Braunfels, to keep food service workers who have lost their paychecks working and provide immediate support to nonprofits providing hunger relief for the recent surge in demand.

The initiative provides wages to hourly workers, who in turn serve volunteer shifts at local nonprofit organizations, preparing, serving or delivering food to the area’s children, elderly, individuals and families in need.

United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County became aware of the innovative program and contacted Get Shift Done to help San Antonio residents’ growing food insecurities while assisting workers. Within a short turnaround time, Get Shift Done for San Antonio launched Shiftsmart technology to register workers for shifts with local nonprofits providing hunger relief. The Shiftsmart platform and operations team manage the onboarding, matching, scheduling, dispatching and routing of workers to perform shifts.

“We saw that our local non-profits were experiencing an escalating need for help during this crisis and the needs of the at-risk population for food and resources were spiking,” said Chris Martin, president and CEO of United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County, who is leading the joint effort with local partners.

“We’re able to address three critical needs in one initiative: nonprofit support, hunger relief and stabilizing incomes,” he said.

The skilled restaurant and food service workers prepare, assemble and provide food service meals at a wage rate of \$13 per hour paid from the Get Shift Done for San Antonio initiative, which is funded by the USAA Foundation, Inc. (\$300,000) and a grant from the [COVID-19 Community Response Fund](#). Currently, \$400,000 is earmarked for the program.

Local nonprofits currently benefiting from Get Shift Done for San Antonio workers include Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of San Antonio, Inc.; Haven for Hope, St. Vincent de Paul Society, the San Antonio Food Bank and Greater Randolph Area Services Program, Inc. (GRASP). Outreach efforts are underway to add additional nonprofits to the list.

“Get Shift Done is filling a gap and helping three nonprofits work together to serve meals to those who need them,” said Kenny Wilson, president and chief executive officer of Haven for Hope. “The fact that Haven and our partners, the San Antonio Food Bank and St. Vincent de Paul Society, are able to feed the homeless on the campus, in the courtyard and at the recently converted vacant hotel is representative of the intense compassion for helping found across our community—even during times of fear and uncertainty.”

Get Shift Done was launched by Dallas business and community leaders Anurag Jain and Patrick Brandt with the support of their respective companies, community leaders, restaurant owners and nonprofit organizations. It was created to bridge the gap between the reduction of volunteers and the increased need among food banks and other nonprofits with those from the food and service industry in need of supplemental income.

Get Shift Done is expanding this initiative to cities and areas nationwide. Markets now offering the program include North Texas, Houston, El Paso, Rio Grande Valley, New Orleans, Central Arkansas and the Washington D.C. area.

Patrick Brandt, president of Shiftsmart, said, “San Antonio is known for its outstanding tourism and award-winning restaurant community that has been hit hard economically as a result of the COVID-19 crisis. We are extremely grateful to partner with United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County to be a part of a solution to

provide hunger relief to so many by activating the strong base of restaurant workers who call San Antonio home.”

“The need for volunteers and the need for food and resources are spiking simultaneously during the crisis. When you apply a large displaced workforce in the food and beverage and hospitality industries, an innovative solution emerges that provides an answer to many needs,” said Anurag Jain, chairman of Access Healthcare, managing partner of Perot Jain, and chairman of the board of North Texas Food Bank.

“Get Shift Done for San Antonio can bring critical stability to our community,” said Lady Ray Romano, senior vice president of community impact for United Way. “Affected populations, food service workers and non-profits are activated and empowered to provide services in the communities they call home.”

“People who know food are helping people who need food.”

For more information, visit www.getshiftdone.org/sanantonio.

About United Way

United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County focuses on preparing children for school and life, helping students graduate and succeed, strengthening the well-being of individuals and families, and providing safety net services (food, clothing, shelter, and emergency care.) United Way also operates the 2-1-1 Help Line and fosters volunteerism through the Volunteer Center at United Way.

About Get Shift Done

The Get Shift Done model provides direct income to unemployed food and service industry workers while providing skilled shift work to food banks and other nonprofits providing critical resources for hunger relief. Get Shift Done workers are people who know food helping people who need food. For more information, visit getshiftdone.org.