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September 2020

THIS MONTH —

## Community Coming Together in Crisis

Starting with the global pandemic, and adding wildfires, hurricanes, and civil unrest to name a few, there've been no shortage of crises in 2020. While these are certainly trying times for many, with great need comes opportunity. Throughout these challenges, we seek stories of organizations and communities rallying to help those in need with creative solutions, many of which have a digital component at the core. This month's newsletter explores some of these stories starting with our work on Durham Delivers.

### Featured work —

As an organization who cares deeply about our local Durham community we had the opportunity to collaborate with the Durham Recovery and Renewal Task Force, a group coalesced by the city to address the effects of the pandemic on our community. It included small businesses, a marketing arm in Discover Durham, and access to entrepreneurs via American Underground, a community we've proudly been a part of since 2014. As our local restaurants faced challenges adapting to a take out or delivery only marketplace, we set out to

quickly build something that would help them connect with more patrons without increasing overhead. The result is a site that directs customers to join bulk delivery orders to select parks and neighborhoods throughout the city.

[Visit DurhamDelivers.org →](https://durhamdelivers.org)



## ★ The more you know —

[\*\*A response to COVID-19 for local restaurants: Durham Delivers →\*\*](#)

Savas CEO Chris Russo highlights how Durham Delivers came to be and our role in bringing the concept to life.

Chris Russo, Savas Labs

[\*\*Durham food delivery service helps restaurants reach more customers →\*\*](#)

A new local delivery service has launched to help area restaurants. Cara Rousseau explains how Durham Delivers got started on the Out & About podcast.

Kathy Hanrahan, WRAL

[\*\*Project Not Forgotten: florist donates, delivers flowers to nursing home residents during pandemic →\*\*](#)

A local florist wanted to bring joy to people missing their families. Volunteers delivered more than 1,600 flower orders to 22 nursing homes across NC.

Akilah Davis, ABC11

[\*\*8 ways people are coming together to support their communities during the COVID-19 crisis →\*\*](#)

COVID-19 is keeping people physically apart — but that hasn't stopped people from coming together in support of their neighbors and local businesses.

Rachel Burns, ActiveCampaign

## 📢 Client shoutout —

Sending a client shout out to one of our clients that's big on community impact: **FHI360**. As a nonprofit focused on improving the health and well being of all people FHI360 seeks to make an impact in local communities around the world through their many programs, affiliate organizations, and partners. Recently FHI360 partnered with local Durham Public Schools to plan, design and build an online social-emotional learning hub called **Embrace** that provides students, teachers and caregivers with educational videos, activities, and games.



[Check out FHI360 →](#)

## 🎉 And now, a GIF —



It really is wonderful, isn't it?

## 😊 Meet the team —

Meet Durham native **Madeline Streilein**, one of our Front-End Developers at Savas Labs. Madeline cut her teeth in code school at Project Shift making a career change from political campaigns into the wonderful world of code. Ask her about her many plants or what restaurant in Durham you should visit next and she'll get back to you right after she finishes whatever awesome React app that she's working on in her down time. Come work alongside Madeline!



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