

At Neighborhood House, one of our primary goals is to respond to emergent needs in the community. In response to the current Covid-19 health crisis, our leadership team has prepared a plan to strengthen NH's capacity to reach out and support neighbors forced to cope with the consequences of mandated social distancing. We know that thousands of area families and seniors are at risk of increased food and housing insecurity, disrupted employment, missed learning opportunities, and social isolation--all above and beyond the present health risks. With normal operations interrupted across our programs, we are strategically realigning our staff and volunteer resources to focus on these priority needs related to the pandemic:

**Food Insecurity:**

- Continued distribution of food through our Food Pantry using prepared food boxes to minimize contact.
- Home delivery to families and seniors will start shortly.

**Childhood Hunger/Lost Learning:**

- Staff are delivering healthy lunches on weekdays to our 200 young (0-5 year old) early childhood education students and their siblings.
- Our kitchen is providing lunches for the children at the adjacent Stephens Creek Crossing affordable housing development and our 19th Avenue Housing Program for homeless families.
- They're also providing activities to reduce stress and keep children learning and connected to school.

**Senior Isolation from Services:**

- Senior program staff and volunteers are conducting wellness checks by phone to the hundreds of seniors who rely on our Senior Center to ward off social isolation and access services.
- We'll provide rides to medical appointments, and assist with errands, and provide food deliveries as well.

Even with the disruption to our regular funding sources, we are determined to provide these services and to meet new needs as they emerge, but we need your help in the following ways:

Volunteer to:

- Call, drive or run errands for seniors.
- Help in the Food Pantry assembling and delivering food boxes.
- Organize a food/hygiene products drive among your neighbors.

Donate:

- Cash donations are the most effective way to support our Food Pantry and other programs, and will allow us to respond with flexibility to needs as they emerge.

Please give as generously as you can to ensure NH has the resources it needs to serve the community in the uncertain weeks and months ahead. Together, we can meet the needs of the most vulnerable in our community and minimize the impact of this global crisis right here in our neighborhood.

