

T&E Care Blast email – 3/27/20 – Coronavirus response

We hope everyone is doing well. It's been a tough few weeks for sure. T&E Care is geared up and ready to lend a hand to anyone in our community who needs help - families, seniors, single adults, small business owners, etc. Whether someone has received help in the past, or is new to T&E Care - we welcome anyone who might need assistance. You may have never thought you would need help, but now you do. You may have been the one to help others in the past, but now you are in need yourself. We are all in this together. So, if you need help paying any bills, or you are a small T/E business owner who is struggling or you have employees who are struggling, or you know someone in our community who could use help, please get in touch with us. Your information will be kept strictly confidential.

T&E Care was started in 2005 as an organization to help with local emergency situations, and if this doesn't fit that description - nothing will. We have the funds because of so many recent and past generous donors, and because of our successful past Fall Fest fundraisers. So PLEASE reach out! We are willing and able! The best way to contact us is to [fill out our online form](#) so the situation can be addressed quickly.

Here is a quick rundown of what we've been doing these last few weeks.

- We are paying as many rent and utility bills as we can to help families stay as up-to-date as possible.
- We have been in touch with many of the local faith-based organizations, the local schools, the police and fire departments, [Daemion Counseling Center](#), and our local legislators to make sure everyone knows to send folks to us if they learn of any needs.
- We are delivering grocery store gift cards when we learn of folks needing food. We are also in regular contact with the [Great Valley Food Cupboard](#) and we are encouraging folks to go there and get food when they can.
- Laura Pratt is one of our board members and she also works with [Meals on Wheels](#) and [Surrey](#). She reports that lots of meals are being delivered and picked up each day through those great organizations. Laura is able to also help connect any of these folks with us if the need arises.
- We are delivering laptops to families who had kids in the schools and needed a laptop. We've made a number of deliveries to K-6th grade students, as well as to a couple of parents who are now working from home. Luckily, our amazing IT volunteer had a number of refurbished units ready to go for us, and another great IT volunteer is now offering video support to anyone whose computer runs into an issue.
- We are also partnering with Home Cooked in Paoli, as well as a couple of local community members who are supporting our local restaurants to help get special dinners to families. [One of the folks has a program](#) where people are buying gift cards to local restaurants, then the gift cards are donated to Paoli Hospital workers, Berwyn Fire workers, and some local families who could use a meal now and then.

Additionally, LOTS of folks have reached out to us offering assistance. Thank you to all! If you are so inclined, at this time [the best way to help us](#) or any of the groups mentioned above is with a monetary donation. If we can help a family pay their bills, that hopefully leaves them with some extra cash for food, and it relieves them of the stress of unpaid bills or fear of eviction. One mom recently said to us: *Omg thank you so much. I almost started crying I got up to go to the porch to answer you because I didn't want my children to see me getting emotional. I'm going to sit down with my finances tonight and figure out what I can pay and what I can't pay. I'm down to about \$200. Oh my lord... I just don't know what to say thank you so much. Thank you, thank you, 🙏 thank you.*

This is a true team effort!

The entire board wishes you well,

Sandi Gorman, Jump Dautrich, Gretchen Guttman, Debbie Weger, Charu Gandhi, Kirk Gorman, Nancy Higgins, Laura Pratt and Eileen Ryle

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