

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES DURING COVID 19

Dear Friends: some people have asked how they might help during the COVID19 crisis. Here are some ways in which you may:

1. OpenDoorsRI: <http://www.opendoorsri.org/about>

Thank you for offering to share this initiative with people in your circles. If people would like to donate, they can contact me, **Emily Leeser, Development Specialist**, via email at eleeser@opendoorsri.org or over the phone at (904)304-5839.

OpenDoorsRI will soon be opening their second housing facility in Providence and are seeking the following items to stock the house for the new residents. [check their web site for their mission] This facility **will house 16 men**, with the first 2 men arriving the week of April 13th and the rest within the following couple of weeks.

Kitchen Furnishings: Utensils, Plates, Pots, Pans

Care Packages:

- Backpack (important but not necessary)
- Men's Underwear
- Men's Socks
- Toiletries: toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, lotion, Qtips, shampoo, soap
- Towel / face cloth
- Laundry Detergent
- Laundry Hamper: some inexpensive collapsible ones at WalMart here: https://www.walmart.com/browse/home/laundry-hampers/4044_90828_7067220_1326557 Bed sheets
- Spiral bound Notebook
- Bed sheets – size Twin XL

Grocery Items:

Bulk cereal
Eggs
Milk
Frozen waffles
Frozen hamburgers
Bread
Peanut Butter / Jelly
Oil - olive, canola
Frozen French Fries
Frozen / Raw chicken wings, ground beef
Frozen or boxed Mac n Cheese
Pasta
Canned chili, soup, beans
Rice
Frozen Pizza

2. MAKING BAGGED LUNCHES

This opportunity is also offered through **OpenDoorsRI** through Emily Leeser [contact info above]. On Mondays, Wednesday and Saturdays, bagged lunches are being sought for 12 people living in a homeless community in Pawtucket. The bagged lunches should include: a peanut butter and jelly sandwich, a piece of fruit [oranges and bananas best], a bag of chips, bottled water and a dessert. Arrangements to drop off or to have picked up may be made through Emily.

3. SEWING FACE MASKS:

Hi, my name is Joannie Collins. I am an employee of the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island. I'm writing to let you know of an effort currently underway at one of our parishes, The Church of the Redeemer and throughout the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island: Sewing Masks.

The point people for this project are the Rev. Susan Carpenter and yours truly. Susan made me aware of a Facebook group called "SewHopeSNE. This page unites sew-ers to produce masks for hospitals, nursing homes, and those who just need a mask when physical distancing can't be maintained, such as in a pharmacy or grocery store.

How can you help? Join the effort by signing on to "**SewHopeSNE**" on Facebook. There you'll find face mask patterns, swap for supplies, and, perhaps, make a few friends. Please let me know if you've joined so we can keep in touch and send mask orders your way.

Don't sew? If you have 100% cotton fabric hidden away or have spools of thread you can part with or have a stash of 1/4" elastic (or know where to get 1/4" elastic), then you are part of the team! Email Joannie (email address below). If you don't sew but can cut out a rectangle, that's precious as well.

Lastly, if you know of someone who would like a mask, please let me (Joannie) know.

Many, many thanks to Mary Jane Flynn. With very little notice, she's produced 15 masks for Hallworth House and I don't believe she's left her sewing machine in the last few days! (She told me she just likes to sew!) Also thanks to Joan Daly, Jennifer Morrison and the Rev. Noel Bailey. They are all cutting, pressing, and sewing masks.

For more information, please contact the Rev. Susan Carpenter at Susan@episcopalri.org or Joannie Collins at Joan.Collins@episcopalri.org.

Thank you!