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# MAKING CONNECTIONS

2020 | may



## A NOTE FROM BETTY: **COMFORTS OF HOME**

I'm delighted to share that with the generous support of our community, we reached our \$500,000 Giving Challenge! This unprecedented accomplishment enabled us to introduce our new 20-person COVID-19 Response Team, which includes additional Support Staff to run expanded operations and new Housing Specialists to locate and secure housing for participants staying in hotels. We have already moved 10 people into permanent housing, more are scheduled for later this month, and it's our intention to find a housing solution for everyone in our care.

You can support the transitions from hotel to home by purchasing items from our "Feels Like Home" Amazon **Wish List**. Paying for a new mattress or kitchen utensils may feel like a small gesture, but these comforts of home are essential to launch a new life of stability.

Thank you for your continued partnership and collaboration as we work to end homelessness one person at a time.

In gratitude,



Betty A. Bogg



### Calling all Breakfast Volunteers!

We have opportunities at different locations and times of day - but we especially need breakfast volunteers to purchase or prepare breakfast for the residents at our emergency shelter. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please complete our Volunteer form.

For more information on volunteering during the shelterin-place order, please contact us at info@connect2home.org or 847.475.7070.

**DONATE NOW** 

**Executive Director** 

P.S. View <u>photos of staff and volunteers</u> in action and learn more about our <u>response to COVID-19</u>.



#### **KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY SAFE**

Recently we partnered with Advocate Aurora Health to test participants and staff for COVID-19 on site at our temporary emergency shelter. Connections' staff are front line workers who are exposed to high-risk individuals and participants in congregant living are more at risk of infection. We are grateful for Advocate's partnership to help us keep staff and participants safe.



#### **GIVE THE GIFT OF HOME**

We have hired 5 new Housing Specialists and a new Housing Program Manager to focus on moving 200 participants from hotels to permanent housing. Participants are moving every week and we need your help to furnish their apartments. The "Feels Like Home" Amazon Wish List includes home essentials to outfit an individual's home. Purchase 1 of everything or even just 1 item to help support participants in their next chapter.

**SHOP NOW** 



Currently accepting donations of:

BOTTLED WATER
CANNED FRUIT
SOUP IN A CUP
MICROWAVEABLE MEALS
SNACK-SIZED CHIPS
INDIVIDUAL CEREALS
ADULT UNDERWEAR
ADULT TEES XL, 2X, 3X
BIKE LOCKS

Drop-off at 2121 Dewey M-F between 9:30-4.



SHOP OUR FEELS LIKE HOME WISH LIST



**ICYMI!** 

Connections has been making headlines! Catch up on all the recent news.

3/18 Chicago Tribune

3/25 Evanston Patch

3/25 RoundTable

3/30 Daily Northwestern



## **SPOTLIGHT ON MILIEU ASSISTANTS**

Reaching the \$500,000 Challenge allowed us to hire almost 15 new Milieu Assistants. Our team of Milieu Assistants, also known as Support Staff, are skilled, flexible, friendly, patient, client-facing staff who manage daily operations at multiple sites. Milieu Assistants deliver meals, assist participants with accessing basic needs, liaise with case managers, manage and maintain work environment, and more. Interested in joining the team? We're hiring more Support Staff to support expanded operations. Visit connect2home.org/careers for more information.

4/14 <u>Chicago Tribune</u> 4/15 <u>Evanston Patch</u> 5/11 <u>Chicago Tribune</u> 5/20 <u>Evanston RoundTable</u>

**NEED HELP?** 



## We're in this together...

We are in a time of much uncertainty, but one thing is certain. With your support, we can continue to fulfill our mission of ending homelessness, one person at a time. Support our efforts with a gift today.

DONATE

Ending homelessness, one person at a time.

connect2home.org







