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**connections**  
FOR THE HOMELESS

## MAKING CONNECTIONS

2020 | april



### A NOTE FROM BETTY: IN ONLY 3 WEEKS...

I am simply astonished at how our work has completely turned upside down; we are faced with more challenges than ever before and yet we are continuing to fulfill our mission of ending homelessness, one person at a time. In fact, our vision for fulfilling that mission has crystalized before our eyes in ways we had not imagined possible. While maintaining our general operations, we have launched new efforts in response to COVID-19, with a speed that still shocks me. In just 3 weeks, we have:

- Launched the only 24/7 emergency shelter in the region for **20 adults**;
- Moved **148 adults and 41 children** into discounted rooms at 2 local hotels with 24/7 Connections staff support;
- Established partnerships with local restaurants to purchase 3 discounted meals a day for each hotel guest - a total of over **500 meals daily**;
- Maintained daily drop-in services to provide the community with access to food, basic supplies, showers, and case management. More than **400 neighbors** visited the drop-in center in March with food pantry visits doubling following the shelter-in-place order; and
- Continued to support the **180 people in our 90 units** of housing scattered throughout the



### ***We Need Volunteers!***

We have opportunities at different locations and times of day. We also need support with meals, laundry, errands, and more. If you are interested, please complete our [Volunteer form](#).

*For more information on volunteering during the shelter-in-place order, please contact us at [info@connect2home.org](mailto:info@connect2home.org) or 847.475.7070.*



### ***Currently accepting donations of:***

CAN OPENERS  
CANNED FRUIT  
ADULT UNDERWEAR  
SOUP IN A CUP  
EASY MAC  
HOT DOGS  
CEREAL  
FROZEN MEATS

community by purchasing and delivering vital food and supplies to ensure they can shelter-in-place.

I am so proud of the Connections team for rising to this unprecedented challenge amidst so much uncertainty and for their deep commitment to our mission. With your support, we can continue to keep our doors open even when so many others have closed.

In thanks,



Betty A. Bogg  
Executive Director

*P.S. Read more on our COVID-19 Response [webpage](#).*



## A LITTLE HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS

The drop-in team received a special delivery from our friends at the St. Francis Hospital Emergency Department this week! Sweet treats and even sweeter cards encouraging us to hang in there and letting us know that we're seen, supported, and appreciated.

We are so grateful for the kind gesture from fellow first responders. We value our partnership with St. Francis so much and appreciate their thoughtfulness during such a challenging time.

Thank YOU, St. Francis team for the amazing, critical work that you are doing in our community.

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



**SHOP OUR  
AMAZON WISH LIST**



***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 NOW**



***Connections is hiring!***

We are seeking temporary staff to support COVID-19 response efforts and our increased daily operations



### SPOTLIGHT ON STACEY

A challenging family environment, barriers to steady employment, and unstable housing throughout her life brought Stacey to Connections. She had been working hard at two waitressing jobs, but lost both when the restaurants closed because of COVID-19. This led to living out of her car, but a week ago we were able to move Stacey into one of the hotel rooms so she could safely shelter-in-place. Stacey shared that the hotel has "been a blessing" and that she is "so grateful for Connections."

Despite the difficulties she's experienced, Stacey's resilience and bright spirit continues to shine on. We are glad we can offer support to participants like Stacey amid such a challenging and uncertain time and work together on permanent housing solutions.

at hotels and new emergency shelter. Several shifts are currently available - especially overnights and weekends. Shifts are 8 hours at \$15/hour.

Visit our [career webpage](#) for more information!

**NEED HELP?**

Ending homelessness, one person at a time.

[connect2home.org](https://connect2home.org)

