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connections
FOR THE HOMELESS

MAKING CONNECTIONS

2020 | march



A NOTE FROM BETTY: THE POWER OF YES

Despite the uncertainty and challenges that we are currently facing, I have never been more energized and hopeful. Our little patch of the world is responding to the crisis quickly with generosity, brave and creative solutions, and collaboration. Most of all, I am grateful and overcome by the power of **yes**.

Connections has said yes in countless ways over the last two weeks.

- **Yes** to opening Hilda's Place 24/7.
- **Yes** to opening temporary emergency shelters.
- **Yes** to re-tooling nearly all operations.
- **Yes** to participants asking for food, a shower, a bagged lunch, a place to wash their hands – all of the things that we took for granted just a few weeks ago.

Now, I'm asking you to be another yes. **[Yes to supporting Connections today.](#)**

I wouldn't be honest if I didn't also admit to significant anxiety about how we're going to keep up at this unforgiving pace. With your support, I know we will continue to persevere and say yes.

In thanks,



We Need Volunteers!

Our top need is volunteers who have experience working with participants, either at Connections or a partner organization. We have many 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 or 847.475.7070.



Currently accepting donations of:

CAN OPENERS
PEANUT BUTTER
TUNA
CEREAL

Betty A. Bogg
Executive Director

P.S. Read more updates about our modified and expanded services on our COVID-19 Response [webpage](#).



OUR COMMUNITY IS AMAZING!

Last week, Evanston 5th Ward Alderman Robin Rue Simmons boldly and generously offered her recently purchased property to serve as a temporary emergency shelter. The community rallied to gather donations and supplies needed to fully outfit the space. Simmons' action and support helped spark momentum throughout the city and led to more solutions. As of Tuesday, March 24, 11 individuals have been moved into hotels and additional hotel options for more people are being arranged. One woman said that "this feels like paradise."



OUR SERVICES

Connections continues to operate all 3 facilities with both temporary limited services as well as expanded services.

HOT DOGS
FROZEN MEATS
EASY PULL CANNED
GOODS

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



**SHOP OUR
AMAZON WISH LIST**

DONATE NOW



***Thank you for your
support!***

The Connections team is working around the clock to maintain operations, keep the space safe and clean, and find crisis housing solutions. Your support truly puts a pep in our step! Thank you for your shared commitment to our mission!

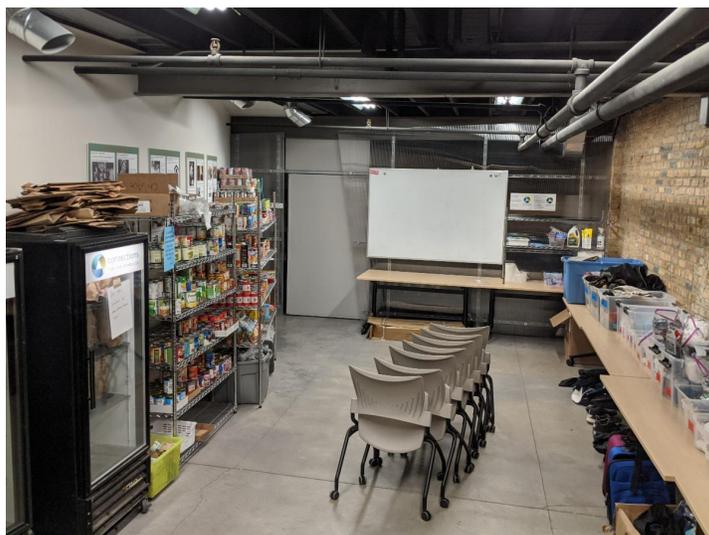
Chicago Tribune

In case you missed it...

We recently spoke with the Chicago Tribune about how

- Food pantry, mail access, bagged lunches, showers and bathroom access Monday - Friday between 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. with 45-60 participants visiting each day
- Our House, Connections young adult transitional shelter operating business as usual
- 40 hotel rooms and counting opened for homeless individuals and families.
- Hilda's Place men's transitional shelter expanded to 24/7 service
- In addition to Simmons' house, temporary emergency shelter for 20 individuals at Lake Street Church opened today and is already at capacity (pictured above)

[Read more updates to services...](#)



MEETING COMMUNITY NEEDS

The community response has been inspiring. Your support has prepared us to meet the increased demands for shelf-stable foods, underwear, socks, and lunches. We rearranged our drop-in center at 2121 Dewey to better serve our participants and display all of the donations we have received over the last few weeks.

Like most people, our participants have been eager to stock up on essentials and shelf-stable foods. Items are going fast and we continue to need your support! For more information on our top needs, please visit our COVID-19 Response [webpage](#).

Ending homelessness, one person at a time.

we are responding to COVID-19 crisis. Read the full story [here](#).

Patch

Today, The Patch published an article about our efforts and our partnerships that are bringing solutions online for homeless residents. Read the full story [here](#).

NEED HELP?

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

