

All For One Food Drive - A HUGE Success - AGAIN!

Dear Community Members, Representatives, Volunteers, Food Drive Contributors and Elected Officials,

We have no words to express how thankful we are to all of you for your participation, generous contributions and overwhelming support, investing your time and kind effort toward the second "All For One Drive-Thru Food Pantry."

The COVID-19 crisis has caused an unprecedented demand for food. **"All for One Food Drive-Thru Joint Community Effort"** was a great example of us all standing as one community, helping humanity at this difficult time.

We began this effort with Community Representatives who joined hands with religious and cultural organizations: Christian, Muslim, Jewish Federation, Dutchess Interfaith, Vassar Temple, Temple Beth-El, Latinx, Bahai, Sikh, Hindu, Muslim/Jewish Alliance, and Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. In addition, we received support from Health Quest Internal Medicine Residency Program, VBMC, Wingate Nursing home (Dutchess / Ulster), Sapphire Wappinger Falls Nursing Home, Assisted Living Landing Poughkeepsie, and Grey Stone Program.

We thank each and every individual who contributed their time and effort with compassion and thoughtfulness while making food boxes.

Volunteer team and participants included Residents from Internal Medicine / Emergency Medicine at **VBMC**, Dr. Mellisa Nelson-Perron Associate Program Director Emergency Medicine Residency at VBMC, Skip Pryce CEO **Grey Stone Program**, Laurie Farina representing **Sapphire Nursing Home**, Rose Brendon representing **Assisted Living Landing Poughkeepsie**, Mary Allen representing **Wingate Nursing Home**, **Jewish Federation** Director Karen Hochhauser, **Harding Club** members, Edriener London, Jena Ray, Branon Remson, Paul and Andi Ciminello, Ron Rosen, special thanks to Marian Schwartz and Miriam Goldstone working on outreach and to all dedicated community members. We could not have packaged, transported, and distributed the boxes without you and your immense help.

Thanks to Al Noor Mosque Sunday School youth group, Principal Shahed Jawaid, Imam Anwar Kearney Poughkeepsie Mosque, Beacon Mosque Imam Abdullah Wajid for their support, and attendance to the day of the event.

Thanks to Senator Sue Serino for her tremendous support, helping in outreach. Special thanks to Mayor of Poughkeepsie Rob Rolison and his staff for providing us with the Crannell St. parking lot, and with tables and chairs. Thanks to County Legislator Rebecca Edwards, candidate for Assembly Laurette Giardino and state senate candidate Karen Smythe for their enormous support

Thanks to Gabriela Owen and Muriel Horowitz for their leadership role in making 200 LatinX food boxes with their volunteers. Thanks to sister Najiba and her team, Gloria Kiss, Charlotte Millin, Nida Haleem, Faraha Adeel, Simala Qamar, and Ayesha Shuja for making 140 regular (non LatinX) food bags.

Special thanks to Seema Rizvi's husband Syed Iqbal Rizvi and daughter Aena Iqbal for their support and help. Thanks also to Aena for her food drive artwork and videography.

Special thanks to Nyhisha Gibbs and her staff from Dutchess Outreach for organizing a concurrent winter coat drive. This was a very thoughtful and kind effort.

We greatly appreciate your kind effort and tremendous support in making this Food Drive and Drive-Thru Food Pantry successful as a collective action. Hopefully, we will continue our efforts to coordinate these food drives, as we all know the COVID -19 crisis unfortunately is ongoing.

May God bless you all with health and happiness. May God save all of us here in the US and the entire world from the COVID 19 crisis and keep us healthy and safe.

Please see the Mid-Hudson News article on the All for One Food Drive

<https://midhudsonnews.com/2020/10/26/all-for-one-food-drive-through-community-effort-hosts-second-food-distribution-event/>

With Sincere Gratitude,

Seema Rizvi, MD and Rabi Sinha, MD
All for One Food Drive and Drive-Thru Food Pantry Organizers