

ADVENTIST COMMUNITY SERVICES OF GREATER WASHINGTON, INC.

501 SLIGO AVENUE, SILVER SPRING, MD 20910

Celebrating 35 Years of Service to the Community



Adventist Community Services of Greater Washington

COVID 19 Update 2 March 22, 2020

Dear Neighbors,

The Adventist Community Services leadership team is thankful for your support and concern in this COVID 19 time. Every effort is being taken to keep essential services operational. With available resources, several changes have been put in place to protect the staff and volunteers during this period of risk. More changes have been made in process to minimize contact and to maintain social distance.

This week the number of families who came to get a food basket was up. What is troubling is that by Thursday 1/2 of the families were first time users of the Pantry! I fear that in the next 2-3 weeks as home food stocks deplete and families' lose jobs and income, the demand for food assistance will explode. I am thankful for individuals and organizations that keep the pantry stocked and services operational.

Updates will be posted to: <https://www.facebook.com/ACSGWSLIGO/>

The leadership team is monitoring the evolving crisis and consulting/coordinating with government entities and a network of non-profits and local community action groups to provide a strong and effective response.

PANTRY SERVICES

To minimized congregating, you must call 301-585-6556 between 10 and 4pm a day or 2 ahead to schedule an appointment. For new pantry users a short application is required. An ID is required.

The pantry is located at 501 Sligo Ave. Silver Spring.

PHONE: (301) 585-6556

www.acsgw.org

FAX: (301) 585-3074



Service hours are 10-2pm, Monday-Thursday.

To promote safety and social distance, shopper's choice is suspended.

Bring your own bags or box. The food box will contain healthy shelf stable foods, and as available, fresh produce & baked goods.

Distribution will be outside to allow for more social distance.

All surfaces will be sanitized regularly.

SUPPORTING THE SERVICES

Increased service demand and increased safety measures will far outstrip budgeted amounts.

Each day of service is about \$200 in new costs.

The donate tab at www.acsgw.org is an easy way to provide support for neighbors in crisis or mail a check to 501 Sligo Ave. Silver Spring 20910.

Volunteer-Daily needs can fluctuate and are projected to increase. Tasks vary from preparing boxes, serving boxes to intake and clerical. Also food rescue is most helpful. Go to <https://www.communityfoodrescue.org/> locate available food to rescue for the ACSGW pantry. Not at this time, but home delivery may be required going forward.

Donate needed items-shelf stable food, hygiene and sanitizing supplies for families are welcome. Protective gear is also vital. The Center is not taking clothing donations for the next 3 weeks as the free clothing closet is closed until further notice.

In-kind donations can be dropped at 501 Sligo Ave. during normal operating hours (M-Th 9-5) or in the blue box behind Sligo Adventist Church on Greenwood Ave.

As ACS is able, support will be provided to smaller local pantries.

OTHER ACTIONS

Call on a neighbor with limited public interaction. Serve their needs if possible.

Prayer in this time of crisis is welcome and encouraged.

Ken Flemmer
Executive Director
ACSGW