

A Letter to Our Neighbors

A Word from Our Director

Our community is RESILIENT. We counted the days and we are almost 3 months into the new reality that COVID-19 has created. We see face masks and gloves everywhere we go, but here in North Richmond we also see strength and neighborly love on every corner. We see strength in the single mom who opens her home to relatives financially affected by COVID and needing a place to live. We see strength as volunteers choose to show up every day to lift heavy boxes and serve on our food distribution line. We see neighborly love as residents of an apartment complex go door to door to ensure their elderly neighbors have enough food. We see neighborly love as the children in our You Can Academy grin from ear to ear at each other on the weekly zoom call. We see the reliance and beauty of our community each and every day, and we are honored to love and support our neighbors and friends through this season.

In this newsletter, you will read stories of neighbors loving neighbors - of heroes in our community that load up their cars with 15 meals to distribute to elderly neighbors; heroes who provide transportation to families with no vehicle to pick up food through our distribution line; heroes who pray over our community members expressing loneliness and anxiety in quarantine.

I pray you are encouraged by the strength and love of our neighbors as you continue to read the pages below.

Thank you for your prayers and support as we continue to live into our mission of strengthening the North Richmond. We cannot do this without you.

Grace and peace.

Elise Caire

Director of Friends of North Richmond



Ms. Josie Rocks!

Josie Dominguez was born and raised in North Richmond. Growing up, she was very close to her mother. In fact, she considered her to be her best friend. Josie's mom was always busy doing things to care for others. In 2007, this very special lady passed away. Josie's goal every day is to do something to make her mother proud and keep her memory alive.

Over the time we have known Josie, we have seen countless ways that she demonstrates love for others. Each week, she comes to pick up a carload or two of groceries to distribute to her elderly neighbors, sometimes as many as 30 people. Not only does she make sure her neighbors food needs are met, but she has been taking some of her neighbors to get tested for COVID-19. She believes it very important to look out for the needs of one another, especially those who are most vulnerable.

Josie said, "When I grow up, I want to be just like my mother." We think her mom would be so proud of the way she carries on her legacy and demonstrates kindness for her neighbors.



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Volunteers Make a Difference!

This is Cici! She is one of many wonderful people that have joined us to volunteer during this time.

As we continue to adapt to meet the needs of North Richmond, we have adjusted our Distribution Center hours. Our drive through food distribution center is now on Mondays and Wednesdays, with a morning and afternoon shift each day. Volunteer responsibilities include making phone calls, greeting drivers, directing traffic, running copies, bagging pet food and produce, putting together resource packets and kid bags, and loading cars. There is much work to be done to keep this operation running smoothly.

We are following safety precautions, including social distancing, limiting number of volunteers that can sign up, keeping our building disinfected, and providing gloves and masks for our volunteers. Volunteers must sign up before coming, in order to maintain limited numbers. To sign up for a volunteer shift at our distribution center, simply sign up here: bit.ly/fnrcenter



Stay up to date on the latest news and opportunities on our Facebook and Instagram!

Congratulations Lucinda!

Lucinda Cortez has been a part of the Attack Poverty family for over 7 years. She first met our team through a home repair that Friends of North Richmond volunteers did in her father in law's home. Impressed with the love and care that the volunteers poured out, she joined our team as a volunteer. She later became the Adult Education Coordinator, forming classes that met adults in this community at their point of need. Lucinda has a great passion to see people succeed and reach their full potential, and we have seen many success stories because of her investment.

Lucinda recently announced that she will be retiring from Friends of North Richmond. Although she is right around the corner, we are going to miss her presence greatly. We are grateful for the time, energy and love that she has poured into others. We know this investment will continue, and we look forward to seeing how God uses her during this new season.

We love you Lucinda, and we look forward to seeing you around!



Want to Give?



We are so thankful for all of your generous donations. As we continue to meet basic needs, we are currently in need of the following items:

Bottled Water

N95 Masks

Clorox Wipes

Gallon Ziplock Bags

Nonperishable Food (especially that doesn't need to be cooked)

Kids' Activities and Craft Supplies

Donations can be dropped off at 1305 Clay St. between 9am-5pm Monday-Thursday.

A Gift for You

Although the month of May has almost come to a close, it's not too late for you to make a donation. As a thank you for any donations that are made online in the month of May, you will receive a print of this art piece, Shalom. Your giving helps further the reach of Attack Poverty.

There's still time! Click [HERE](#) to donate.

