

A Letter to Our Neighbors

A Word from Our Director

Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

Psalms 119:105

Each day we hear new information about COVID-19. We listen for school re-opening guidelines, we learn about face mask mandates, and we wait for the zoom meeting to start. Each day is different and brings its own set up highs and lows.

But as I read Psalm 119:105, I am reminded that God shows us what happens next one step at a time. He does not always show us the whole path. Sometimes, he simply shows us where to place our next foot step.

I have never felt this more acutely than during this season with COVID-19. COVID-19 has taken away knowing what the next six months or even next month has in store as the information we receive is constantly being updated. We do not get to see the whole path. HOWEVER, God is showing us what we need to do today - the direct next step.

We see this in our neighborhood as community members take the next step of bringing groceries to an elderly neighbor. We see our neighbors take the next step of seeking financial assistance after being let go due to COVID.



We see our students take the next step of joining the summer programming zoom call and grinning from ear to ear as they see their friends again. We see our single moms take the next step as they share extra diapers they have with other moms.

In this newsletter, you will read stories of neighbors of trusting God's larger plan and simply taking a next step. 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

Virtual Opportunities

ESL Online!

During the time of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have had to close our Adult Education classes.

In the past weeks, all of our Attack Poverty locations have been working diligently to get our ESL classes online!

If you're interested in joining the class or volunteering, email emilio@attackpoverty.org.



FREE VIRTUAL COUNSELING

Short-term counseling is available for Attack Poverty community members impacted by COVID-19.



Our Disaster Recovery Program can provide free virtual counseling to help address the emotional impact of the Coronavirus. Contact our Community Social Worker to find out more!

COMMUNITY SOCIAL WORKER

NATALIE CORTES 832.899.5211

NATALIE@ATTACKPOVERTY.ORG

WWW.ATTACKPOVERTY.ORG/DISASTERRECOVERY

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK @APDISASTERRECOVERY



Virtual Theater Camp

Catie Harris is a senior and theatre student at Stephen F. Austin High School. She is working on her Girl Scout Gold Award and is excited to partner with Friends of North Richmond again, as her troop helped out with the 5K costume contest and Mission Week a few years ago.

The focus of her Gold Award project is to celebrate everyone's differences and how our individual talents and strengths can come together to create something beautiful. "This message has always had a special place in my heart and I think now more than ever that it needs to be heard," Catie shares. Her project strives to reinforce that message with a group of elementary students; that everyone has value, and how diversity and our differences make us stronger when we come together. She will participate in the "Read, Deed, and Run" virtual summer camp this month.

In the first Zoom session, she spoke to the kids about what it means to be a student technician working "behind the scenes" in theatre. That is where she found a personal love of technical theatre and where the message of collaboration between individual strengths and differences really came alive. She speaks from experience working together to create their school productions, and hopefully introduced the students to something they have never heard of before.



For the second Zoom session, she has created and produced a short movie for the kids to watch. The story reinforces the ideas of acceptance and coming together to create something beautiful.

Over the next weeks, she will be working with the kids, giving them each the opportunity to be creative and draw what the word "together" means to them. As her final step in this project, Catie plans to make a video compiling pictures of this artwork highlighting the theme of her project and what the students take away from their sessions together.

She thanks everyone at Attack Poverty who helped her with this project, the connections she has made in the organization and most of all, the opportunity to spread a message of how there is strength and beauty in our diversity.



Prayer Line

Our prayer team loves to pray for the needs of our North Richmond community. We are excited to announce that we now have a prayer line available.

Text your prayer request to this number:
832-827-4420.

Want someone to call and pray with you over the phone? Simply request a phone call in your text.

Volunteer

We continue to meet the basic needs of our neighbors through our food distribution line every Monday and Wednesday from 10-11:30am and 2:00-4:00pm.

Due to elevated cases of COVID-19 in our community, we have cut back our numbers to five volunteers per shift. We are taking precautions with our volunteers, including taking temperatures, providing gloves, masks, and sanitizer.

If you would like to volunteer, click [HERE](#).



Giving



Click the below to give a one-time or recurring monthly donation.



So many families are dealing with job loss, health problems, lack of childcare, and many other stressors. Here are some supplies we are currently in need of:

- Dog and Cat Food
- Clorox Wipes
- Baby Wipes
- Size 5 or 6 Diapers
- 2-Gallon Ziplock Bags
- Gallon Ziplock Bags
- Kids' Activities and Craft Supplies
- Bottled Water

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

Want to contribute financially? Your gift helps us continue the work of meeting basic needs for more families.

9th Annual Run to Attack Poverty!

Run Around the World to Attack Poverty
August 29 - September 5



9TH ANNUAL RUN TO ATTACK POVERTY
5K 10K KIDS-K

Presented by
K
The Kinne Group
COMPASS

Register for the ultimate Zoom Experience!

zoom

Run with your community, engage with other runners, hear words of encouragement, and listen to awesome music to keep your legs pumping. This is not mandatory but is highly encouraged!

August 29 • 8 a.m.
Run with Friends of Uganda to Attack Poverty

September 5 • 8 a.m.
Run with Friends of East Asia to Attack Poverty

Register Online at: RuntoAttackPoverty.itsyourrace.com

Every mile ran and dollar raised helps further our mission to strengthen under resourced communities through spiritual growth, education, revitalization, and basic needs. By running your race, YOU are empowering people to attack poverty in their own life and community. Click [HERE](#) to register.



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