



Coronavirus Update March 16, 2020

KEEPING YOU IN THE KNOW about how the Coronavirus is affecting our people, our programs, our methods of delivering basic services like food and shelter *and how you can help us continue to serve our Guests*, some of the most vulnerable in our community, during this crisis.

TEMPORARY PROGRAM CLOSURES & CHANGES

We have decided to close our non-essential programs and focus only on our life-saving work of providing food and shelter in new and creative ways to those in need during this Coronavirus outbreak.

- Thrift Stores will be closed until this health crisis is under control
- All Sewing and Culinary Arts classes have been suspended until further notice
- Our Soup Kitchen will be converted to a “meals to go” kitchen Monday to Friday for breakfast and lunch
- Our Food Pantry’s weekly “grocery store experience” that serves over 800 families a week will be converted to a “groceries to go” format, and will continue to fulfill emergency food orders
- Our Shelter will continue to operate under strict CDC health guidelines, and we are cross training our staff to fill the required shifts and roles normally filled by volunteers
- We have offered the use of our Ishah House Building to the city of Lawrence during this crisis

VOLUNTEER STATUS

- We have curtailed our extensive volunteer involvement until further notice. If you have any questions about that please contact our coordinator of volunteers, Marcy Furse marcy@lazarushouse.org or call 978-269-5217. We ask that at this time, if you are able, to make a financial donation until we can again engage your beautiful hearts for service to our Guests.

HOW YOU CAN HELP US CONTINUE TO SERVE OUR GUESTS

- PRAY for us, our Guests, and the Lawrence Community
- DONATE

The generosity of our community of volunteers, donors, sponsors and partners has always amazed us and during this uncertain time of COVID-19 that has been no different. We have had people calling, emailing, texting and messaging asking about how they can best support us during this time; asking about our Guests’ needs and how they can help. Given the uncertainty of each day and the unforeseen ways we may need to deliver our services, right now we most need monetary donations so that we can react quickly to anything that comes our way.

NOTE: The Lazarus House Ministries’ Coronavirus Staff Task Force are examining sanitation protocols across the ministry and are taking every precaution to keep our Ministries safe for our Guests and staff. We are proactively cleaning and sanitizing high use areas and surfaces several times a day, along with ensuring our supplies of hand sanitizers, tissue, soap and paper towel supplies throughout the Ministry are well stocked. We have printed CDC signs and distributed throughout the Ministry for all to be reminded of safe practices. We are continuously making necessary changes to the way we serve and sanitize, keeping safety for all at the forefront of our minds and actions.

and Jesus said:

“Don’t let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me.”

- John 14:1 NLT

ABOUT LAZARUS HOUSE:

Lazarus House helps courageous women, men, and children living in poverty restore their dignity and self-respect. We offer life-saving services in the areas of food, shelter, clothing and education.

We provide:

Nourishment, through served meals and weekly groceries.

Stability, through emergency shelter and transitional housing.

Comfort, through advocacy and case management and highly affordable clothing, housewares, and furniture at our thrift store locations. When guests face a dire need, we provide vouchers for free items, about 400 per year. We also distribute holiday gifts and food boxes for 700+ families through our Project Bethlehem and Giving Tree programs.

Dignity, through preparation to earn a living wage in our vocational training in sewing and culinary arts (with paid internships and ServSafe Certificate program)

Lazarus House serves at least 25,000 households annually.