

Response to COVID-19



Northeast COVID Community Partner Responses

Provided by



#Allinthisogether

Creative Ways to Address Community Need

During the COVID-19 crisis, community organizations across the State continue to serve on the frontlines every day to help those in need in our local communities.

Buckeye asked our community partner network of 40,000+ people what their organizations were doing to help the community during the COVID-19 crisis. The response was overwhelming! 244 partners across the state shared creative ideas and best practices related to direct outreach during these challenging times.

We compiled a snapshot of the great work in the Northeast region in service to our members and the broader community. We hope these examples encourage and inspire you during this time. We are all in this together.

Stay Safe and Healthy!

Northeast Ohio



Senior Support Services



The Retired Senior and Volunteer Program

The Senior Support Action Group was created in response to COVID-19 concerns for the health of our seniors in Mahoning and Trumbull counties. The group brings together community partners to share resources, information, and to collaborate in ways to assist seniors in the valley. The group provides services including delivery of groceries, food boxes, medications, transportation to medical appointments, check-in calls, and sewing masks.

Many of the volunteer services in the community are provided by seniors; however, for their health and safety, seniors are now practicing social isolation. The group is providing opportunities for seniors to continue to volunteer from their homes to support one another.

For more information, visit their [website](#) or [Facebook](#) or call the Senior Support Action Group hotline at 330-520-4038 x 2222.



Geauga County Department On Aging

Senior Centers in Geauga County remain closed at this time. However, the Geauga County Dept on Aging continues to provide support for seniors in their community. Meals are being delivered to seniors' homes and congregate meals are being offered in drive up/carry out meal formats.

To ensure seniors have proper hygiene supplies, the agency is collecting toilet paper to distribute to seniors in need.

In addition, they started an "Art & Letters from the Heart" initiative asking local students to create artwork, cards or letters to be distributed to nursing homes, assisted living facilities and homebound seniors.

For more information, visit Geauga County Dept. on Aging's [website](#) on [Facebook](#).



North Olmsted Senior Center

During the COVID-19 emergency, the North Olmsted Senior Center is continuing to serve community seniors. The center is providing resources to entertain seniors like crossword puzzles and interactive websites they can visit for free ebooks, museum tours and more.

To assist seniors with food, they are providing frozen meal delivery and publicizing community resources like early shopping hours, special diet refrigerated/frozen meal delivery and Meals on Wheels.

For more information, visit www.north-olmsted.com.



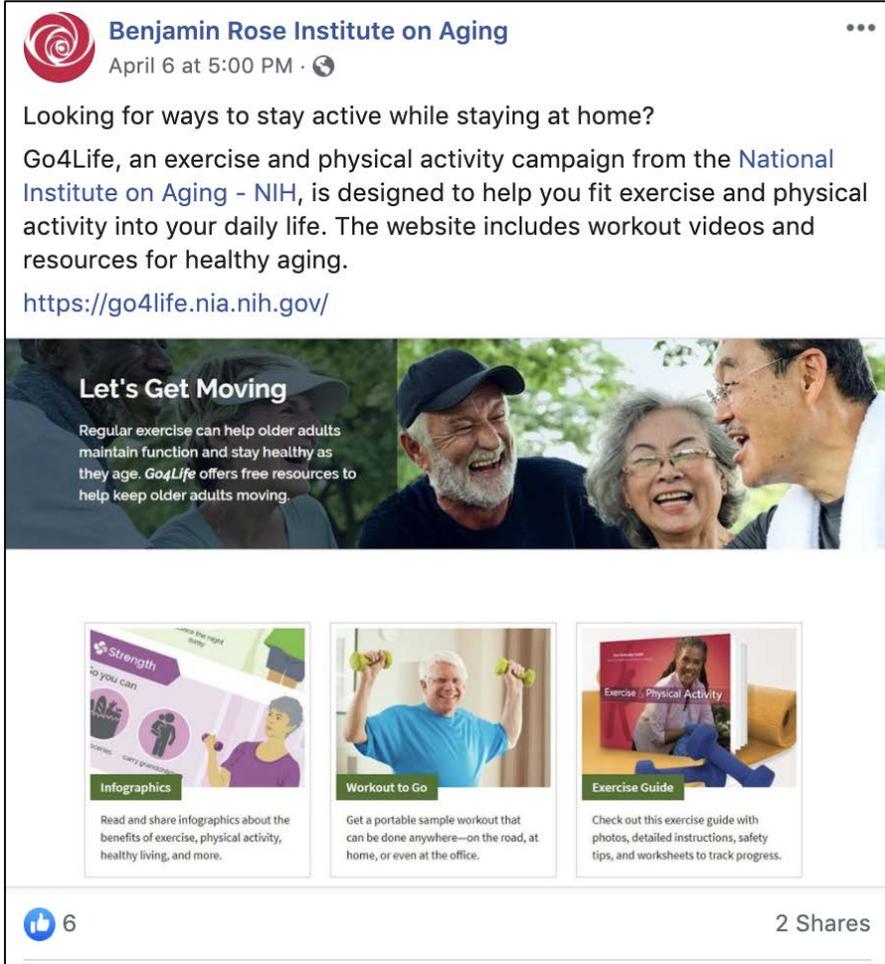
Benjamin Rose Institute on Aging

Benjamin Rose Institute on Aging continues to serve the community by providing resources and telephone assistance. Face-to-face services such as mental health case management and financial counseling are now being offered by telephone. Congregate meals are provided to senior centers participants as home-delivered meals. Volunteers are assisting with the delivery of meals, wellness calls and grocery delivery.

They are accepting new clients for home-delivered meals, behavioral health services, and some other services that can be delivered remotely. Call 216-791-8000 or email intake@benrose.org for more information.

Program updates and resources are posted on their page dedicated to [COVID-19](#) that includes tips for caregivers and stay-at-home activities to help older adults stay connected and engaged.

To learn more about Benjamin Rose, visit their [website](#), [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#).



Benjamin Rose Institute on Aging
April 6 at 5:00 PM · 🌐

Looking for ways to stay active while staying at home?
Go4Life, an exercise and physical activity campaign from the [National Institute on Aging - NIH](#), is designed to help you fit exercise and physical activity into your daily life. The website includes workout videos and resources for healthy aging.
<https://go4life.nia.nih.gov/>

Let's Get Moving
Regular exercise can help older adults maintain function and stay healthy as they age. *Go4Life* offers free resources to help keep older adults moving.

Infographics
Read and share infographics about the benefits of exercise, physical activity, healthy living, and more.

Workout to Go
Get a portable sample workout that can be done anywhere—on the road, at home, or even at the office.

Exercise Guide
Check out this exercise guide with photos, detailed instructions, safety tips, and worksheets to track progress.

👍 6 2 Shares

Childhood Development



Alta Head Start

Alta Head Start is a preschool program to support children ages birth to 5 years old to give them a “head start” in education. During this time, staff are continuing to support families remotely via phone calls, texts and emails. They engage families with educational materials available online and through the mail. Family advocates work with families on parent engagement via phone, emails, and texts.

They are encouraging parents to have intentional conversations with their children about COVID-19. They are providing resources to start the conversation as well as activities to engage children during the stay at home order on social media.

Alta is also providing fresh fruits and vegetables to families as part of their Healthy Habits, Healthy kids initiative. Families can pick up fresh food at various distribution sites or have food delivered to their home if they are unable to travel.

For more information visit Altaheadstart.org or [Facebook](#).



EN-RICH-MENT

EN-RICH-MENT engages underserved urban youth (age 5 to 18) in the arts. During this time, they have launched competitions to encourage youth to turn to the arts to cope with the crisis. EN-RICH-MENT has created an online competition called “EN-RICH-MENT’s Got Talent” for Stark County youth to showcase their musical, theater, art and dance talents for gift card prizes.

In addition, the organization is hosting free online fine arts classes on their website and Youtube channel. Classes surround topics of gardening, dance, voice, TV production, graphic design, musical instruments, arts and crafts, theatre, Youtube 101, cooking, health and fitness and more. Classes can be accessed [here](#).

For more information, visit www.en-rich-ment.org



**EN-RICH-MENT'S
GOT
★ TALENT
Online Competition**

Ages 5-24 Stark County residents only
Deadline for video submission extended to April
19th and April 29th for voting.

THEATER INSTRUMENT DANCE ART SINGING

\$200 PRIZE FOR FIRST PLACE WINNER!
2nd, 3rd and 4th place winner will be presented
with a \$25 on-line gift card.

Detailed information on registration form.
Free registration at www.en-rich-ment.org

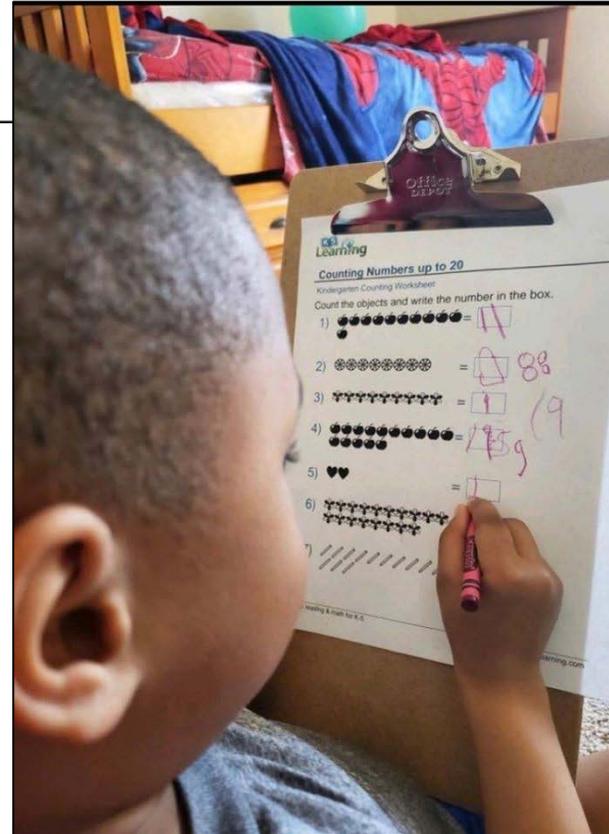
The poster features a light blue background with the title in a mix of purple and pink fonts. Below the title, it specifies the age range and residency requirements, along with the submission deadline. A row of five small images illustrates the competition categories: theater, instruments, dance, art, and singing. The prize information is highlighted in a white box with a black border, and the registration details are at the bottom.

SPARK Ohio

The SPARK (Supporting Partnerships to Assure Ready Kids) program provides a kindergarten readiness advantage for families with preschool-age children (three- and four-year-olds). During this time, SPARK Ohio is staying connected with families through social media. Staff are recording themselves reading books, meeting with families through Facetime or Zoom for virtual visits, and providing resources activities to support learning from home.

For more information, visit their [website](#) or social media channels:

- [SPARK Ohio Facebook](#)
- [Instagram](#)
- [SPARK Stark Facebook](#)



Health and Wellness



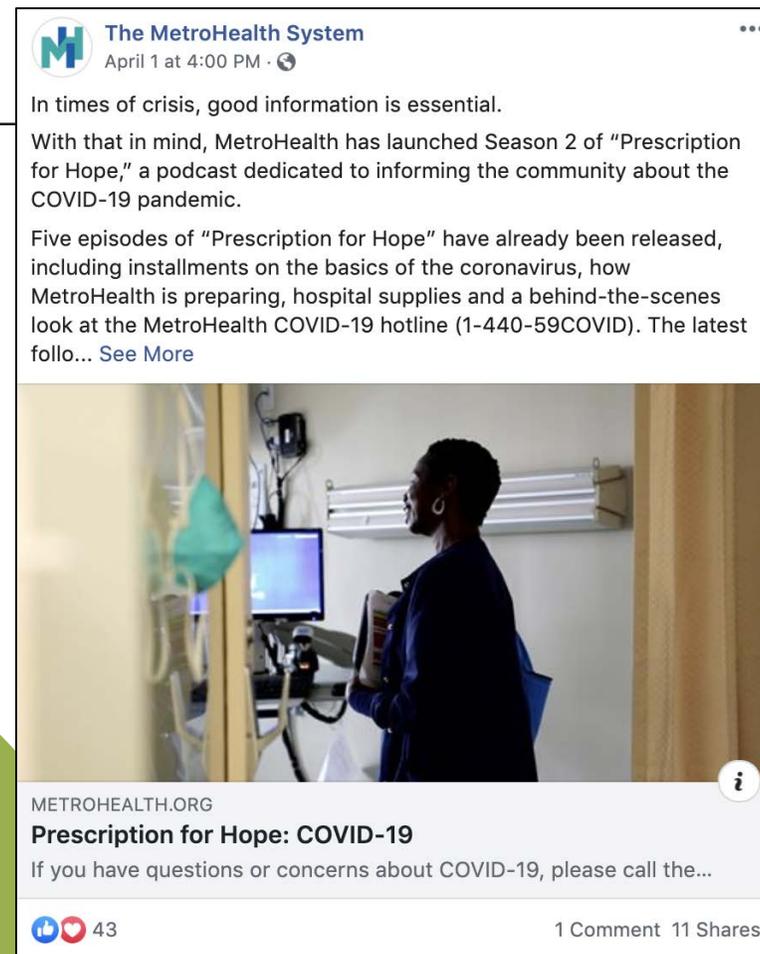
The MetroHealth System

The MetroHealth System is assisting the community during this time through their COVID-19 Hotline, available 24/7. Medical calls are screened and scheduled for telehealth visits. Behavioral health related calls are screened for anxiety or other conditions and scheduled for consultations if needed. MetroHealth 24/7 Hotline Assistance: (440) 592-6842

The health system is supporting other challenges related to the crisis. They are communicating changes in state and federal policy regarding public assistance, food drives, WIC info, education, activities and more. For those experiencing financial burdens, MetroHealth is meeting patient needs via MetroHealth's Helping Hand fund.

For more information, go to [MetroHealth.org](https://www.metrohealth.org) and click on quarantine resources. They have a podcast dedicated to informing the community about the COVID-19 pandemic: "Prescription for Hope."

500 calls
received
each day



The MetroHealth System
April 1 at 4:00 PM · 🌐

In times of crisis, good information is essential.

With that in mind, MetroHealth has launched Season 2 of "Prescription for Hope," a podcast dedicated to informing the community about the COVID-19 pandemic.

Five episodes of "Prescription for Hope" have already been released, including installments on the basics of the coronavirus, how MetroHealth is preparing, hospital supplies and a behind-the-scenes look at the MetroHealth COVID-19 hotline (1-440-59COVID). The latest follo... [See More](#)

METROHEALTH.ORG
Prescription for Hope: COVID-19
If you have questions or concerns about COVID-19, please call the...

👍❤️ 43 1 Comment 11 Shares

Portage Path Behavioral Health

During the COVID-19 crisis, Portage Path is offering telehealth intakes assessments, therapy, and medication management over the phone or via video through Doxy.me. Clients are called at the time of their scheduled appointments and new clients can call for assessment. Refills and some medication changes can be handled over the phone as well.

Their Psychiatric Emergency Services location is open 24/7 for mental health crises as well as the Support Hotline at 330-434-9144.

Portage Path is featured during “Mental Notes” on Rock & Recovery Radio on weeknights in the 11pm hour. Their [video library](#) and [coping skills library](#) is also available to support clients online.

For more information, visit their [website](#), [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#).



The Autism Society of Greater Akron

The Autism Society of Greater Akron (ASGA) understands the challenges their clients and their families may be facing during the crisis. Children with autism thrive on routine and families are used to having a “village” of support professionals around them for education, therapy, respite, and community support. With the collapse of this vital network, support falls on the parents/caregivers who may feel overwhelmed during this time. ASGA is ensuring that the autism community knows they are still here and families are not alone.

The agency is responding to community need by re-prioritizing budget and programs to respond to as many requests for help and support as possible. ASGA has launched several initiatives to help clients and their families like “Take a Break on ASGA” to provide funds for respite and grocery card for families and “Operation Cheer” to send cards to individuals with disabilities in residential facilities. In addition, they are hosting virtual Facebook Support Groups and yoga sessions.

For more information, visit <https://autismakron.org/>



Red Oak Behavioral Health

Red Oak Behavioral Health is supporting their patients through telehealth services. Staff are providing options for games and activities to keep kids engaged in sessions and additional resources to manage their mental health. Specialists are delivering school meals to clients who don't have access to transportation each morning and doing mini sessions outside while the client remains behind the door to practice one or more of their coping skills. Snacks are being dropped off at client homes with appointment reminders.

Staff are supporting one another during this challenging time. They are doing spirit weeks from home offices and hosting social hours every Friday to stay connected. Constant communication occurs with standing meetings every morning and a Facebook page was developed for staff to share ideas and curriculum.

For more information, visit their [website](#) or [Facebook](#).



Red Oak Behavioral Health
April 10 at 8:03 AM · 🌐

Red Oak Behavioral Health is OPEN to provide services to our clients via Telehealth.
Call us if you need to talk with someone at 330.996.4600
[#BHIsOpenForBusiness](#)
[#WeAreInThisTogether](#)

Telehealth
Access behavioral health care services remotely through a computer, tablet, or phone.

7
3 Shares

Food Insecurity and Other SDOH Challenges



Northeast Ohio Black Health Coalition

Northeast Ohio Black Health Coalition is supporting children and their families affected by school closings. Each Monday, the coalition is providing a week's worth of meals to 70+ families.

Their work was featured on [Fox 8](#).

For more information about the Northeast Ohio Black Health Coalition, visit their [website](#).



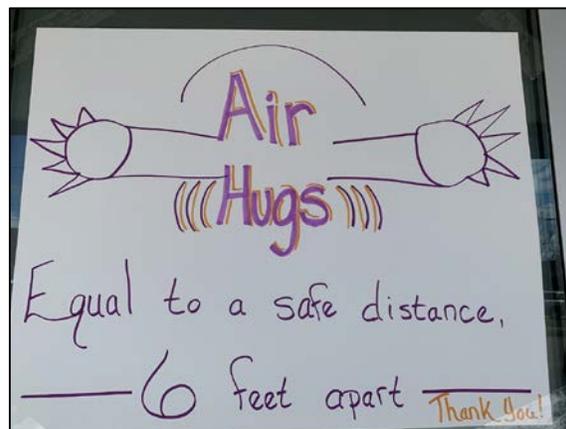
"I just wanted to thank you for the meals you provided for my children this week the meals have help me and my family a lot."

Refuge of Hope Ministries

Refuge of Hope Ministries provides meals, shelter and hope for Stark County residents. During this time, they have increased the number of meals offered from 8 to 11 per week and have altered meal distribution to a carry-out format. Watch [this video](#) to learn more about the “Carry-Out & Carry On” food distribution program

Increase clearing procedures are being implemented in the meal ministry and shelter. Volunteers and clients are maintaining social distancing guidelines and a room has been designated for shelter residents who are not feeling well. Other precautionary measures include new intake procedures, questions about health from the homeless hotline and at the shelter, and temperatures taken twice daily for all staff, volunteers, and residents.

For more information, visit their [website](#) or [Facebook](#).



Cleveland Catholic Charities Hispanic Senior Center

Cleveland Catholic Charities Hispanic Senior Center has altered its services to meet the needs of seniors and abide by social distancing/stay at home guidelines. Their congregate meal program is delivering meals to participants' homes and they are connecting with seniors through calls.

To increase seniors' spirits, the center is delivering crafts and games. They continue to spread important information about the virus and resources available to keep seniors' minds occupied and prevent depression.

For more information, visit ccdacle.org.



Youngstown City Schools

Youngstown City Schools is committed to ensuring their students have access to meals during this time. The school district is partnering with the City of Youngstown, the United Way of Youngstown and Mahoning Valley for a meal service pickup program.

To distribute meals across the district, they divided their service area into zones, each with a designated food pick up site. Families can visit one of the following pick up tents from 11 am to 1 pm or until the meals are gone:

- McGuffey 310 S. Schenley Ave.
- Kirkmere, 2851 Kirk Road
- Harding, 1903 Cordova Ave.
- East, 474 Bennington Ave.
- Taft, 730 E. Avondale Ave.
- Williamson, 58 Williamson Ave.

Families are provided up-to date information about school activities and food distribution through Remind and the district website. For more information, visit YCSD.org.



**15,000 meals
distributed
each week**



Seeds of Literacy

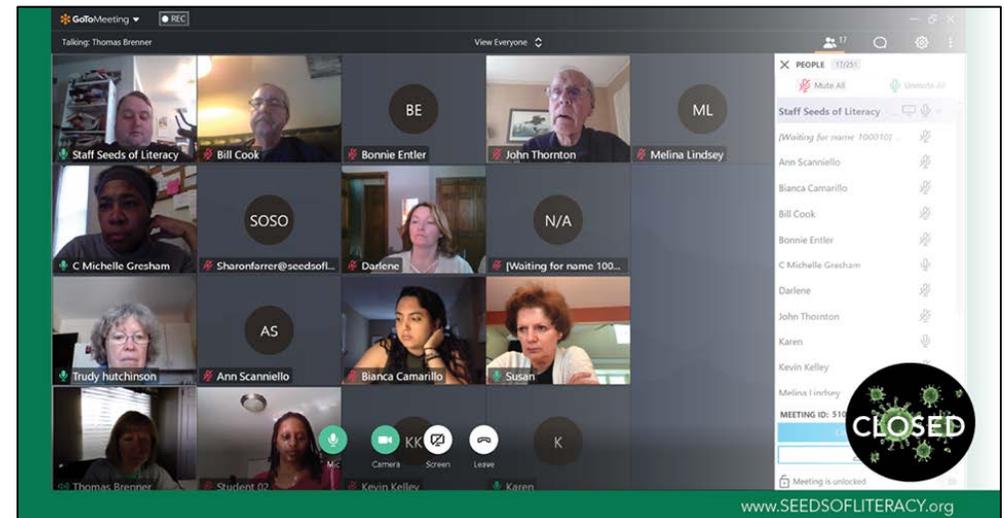
Seeds of Literacy provides educational resources for adults. During this time, the organization's physical classrooms are closed that normally provide 1:1 tutoring for adult learners. Instead, the staff is providing creative solutions for learning during social distancing.

Seeds of Literacy launched a tele-tutoring program to continue to provide students with personal, 1:1 support. In addition, volunteer tutors are doing live video lessons where students can log in from their phones or computers to learn. Students can ask questions in real time, and view the tutors' faces and learning content. Lessons are also recorded and housed on the Seeds of Literacy website to access later.

The center continues to offer Individual attention and flexible schedules during this time. Staff are reaching out to students each week to maintain contact and send them any resources and materials they may need.

For more information on the changes, visit their [COVID blog post](#).

To learn more about Seeds of Literacy, visit their [website](#) or follow [@seedsofliteracy](#) on social media.



Youngstown Area Goodwill Industries, Inc.

Youngstown Area Goodwill Industries, Inc. is providing employment pathways to support employers with urgent hiring needs. They are assisting potential employees through the application process by providing virtual and remote job applications and resume building support. Goodwill Youngstown offers online essential skills programs, digital literacy assessments, job search techniques, trainings and workshops.

For more information, visit their [website](#) or social media channels:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Instagram](#)
- [Twitter](#)



Goodwill
YOUNGSTOWN AREA GOODWILL INDUSTRIES, INC., SERVING
Eastern Ohio | Western Pennsylvania

f t i

VIRTUAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

AT YOUNGSTOWN AREA GOODWILL, WE BELIEVE IN THE VALUE OF PEOPLE AND THE POWER OF WORK. WHILE THESE TIMES ARE UNPRECEDENTED, WE ARE DOING ALL THAT WE CAN TO REMAIN TRUE TO OUR MISSION. ALTHOUGH OUR IN-PERSON CLASSES AND TRAINING IS ON HOLD, WE CAN ASSIST YOU VIRTUALLY THROUGH THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS:

 <p>NORTHSTAR DIGITAL LITERACY The Northstar Digital Literacy Assessment, offered through Goodwill, is aimed at helping you acquire the skills you need in today's workplace.</p> <p>This program is a free online set of assessments that show your ability to perform basic computer tasks. You can earn certificates in the areas of essential computer, software and technology skills. Let us help you improve your computer skills and show employers what you know.</p>	 <p>SKILLS TO SUCCEED ACADEMY Accenture's Skills to Succeed Academy is a free interactive, online employability training program focused on building the skills you need to choose the right career, find a job and succeed in the workplace.</p> <p>Begin with a simple pre-assessment that generates a personalized curriculum. Then, tackle interactive modules that help you identify your transferable skills; create a great resume, stand out in an interview and more.</p>	 <p>ONE-ON-ONE APPOINTMENTS At Goodwill, we remain committed to helping our community. While we continue to practice social distancing and pause our in-person computer classes, we can still assist you virtually with one-on-on appointments with our Digital Skills Instructor. You can receive personalized help with job searching, placement, computer software and more. We can inform you of local openings and help you navigate the application and assessment process.</p>	 <p>WEBINARS APPLY FOR JOBS Register for our first webinar for training on how to apply for jobs online. Join us Tuesday, March 31, 10 a.m.</p> <p>We've partnered with a large national retail & health company that has many openings in our community. Sign up to learn about local openings and receive tips on how to apply, what they are looking for and pointers on how to complete the job application and assessment.</p>
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TO REGISTER OR LEARN MORE, CALL 330-759-7921, EXT. 1211, OR EMAIL WORKFORCEDEVELOPMENT@GOODWILLYOUNGSTOWN.ORG.

United Way of Greater Stark County

To assist Stark County residents affected by the COVID-19 crisis, United Way of Greater Stark continues to publicize their 2-1-1 hotline. They have flagged services in their database that are specific/new as of the pandemic (e.g. meals for students, rent/mortgage assistance, food delivery for seniors). Services are changing constantly and they are working with service providers to supply up-to-date information.

For more information, visit their websites:

- [United Way](#)
- [211 Stark](#)
- [211 Carroll](#)



Red Oak Behavioral Health
April 10 at 8:03 AM · 🌐

Red Oak Behavioral Health is OPEN to provide services to our clients via Telehealth.
Call us if you need to talk with someone at 330.996.4600
[#BHIsOpenForBusiness](#)
[#WeAreInThisTogether](#)

**Telehealth**
Access behavioral health care services remotely through a computer, tablet, or phone.

7 3 Shares

Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless

Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless (NEOCH) continues to support and prevent homelessness in their community during this this time. To reduce shelter crowding, NEOCH is encouraging friends and family to provide temporary housing for the homeless population. NEOCH is providing temporary hotel stays for 50 of the most medically vulnerable people experiencing unsheltered homelessness. They are also asking shelters to utilize the triage hotline when assessing clients over the phone who may have come in contact with the virus.

NEOCH has also launched a [mutual aid fund](#) to support the Cleveland Pandemic Response (CPR). CPR is a group of organizers and community members who are helping facilitate the exchange of services, donations and volunteer time during the COVID-19 crisis through an online centralized community hub for resources that can be matched to community needs. To offer time, services, or supplies to the community, visit their website: <http://cleveland.recovers.org/>

For more information, visit their blog post on [Homeless Services and Outreach during COVID-19](#).

Learn more about NEOCH on their [website](#) or social media:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Instagram](#)
- [Twitter](#)



The poster is a vertical graphic with a dark blue background and red text boxes. At the top left is the NEOCH logo, a circular icon with a house and the text "NEOCH" and "community triage - outreach - emergency". To the right of the logo is the title "COVID-19 CLE EMERGENCY HOMELESS RESPONSE" in white and red. Below the title are two numbered red boxes. Box 1 is titled "EMERGENCY FUNDING" and lists three bullet points: "Housing for unsheltered people affected by the virus", "Homeless prevention dollars so no one new enters our homeless shelters that are already at-capacity", and "Funding to support emerging needs as identified by the community". Below the list is the text "DONATE THROUGH THE FORM BELOW OR SEND A CHECK TO: NEOCH, 3631 Perkins Ave, #3A-3, Cleveland, OH 44114". Box 2 is titled "WE NEED EMERGENCY SUPPLIES" and lists "NEOCH Outreach Collaborative partners need:" followed by a list of items: "hand sanitizer | disinfectant | baby wipes", "toilet paper | paper towels | bottled water", and "self-opening canned items | other ready to eat items". Below the list is the text "HOST A DRIVE OR GATHER ITEMS ON YOUR OWN! Please call (216) 432-0540 to arrange a donation drop off or email MollyMartin@neoch.org". At the bottom of the poster is the text "NEOCH.ORG/COVID" and the address "216-432-0540, 3631 PERKINS AVE, CLEVELAND, OH 44114".