Response to COVID-19

Northwest COVID Community Partner Responses



#Allinthistogether 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 Northwest 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!

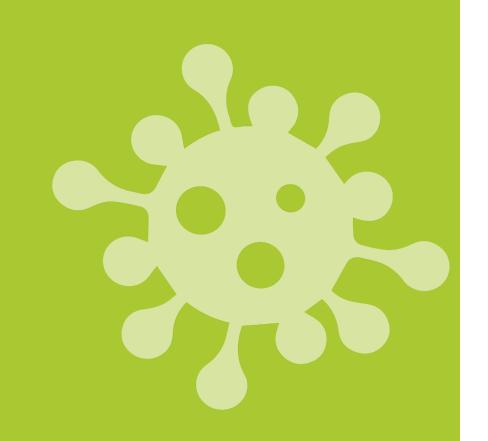


Northwest Ohio



Health and Wellness





Health Partners of Western Ohio

Health Partners of Western Ohio strives to eliminate gaps in health outcomes for all members of their community by providing access to quality, affordable, preventive and primary health care. During the COVID-19 crisis, Health Partners is offering telehealth visits for medical, behavioral health, and substance abuse visits. They have also expanded medication deliveries from their pharmacies.

Learn more about Health Partners of Western Ohio here.







NAMI Wood County

NAMI Wood County offers events, free educational classes, support groups, and other programs addressing mental health for Bowling Green, Ohio and all surrounding Wood County communities.

During the COVID-19 crisis, NAMI Wood County continues to serve adults living with mental illness through online support groups, daily check ins and classes. Community members can learn more about their online support groups on their <u>website</u>.

The organization is also focusing on social media, posting multiple times daily to share a variety of resources: local ways to give, how to maintain mental health through social distancing, where to get help, how to get help, changes in services, etc.

For more information about NAMI Wood County visit their <u>website</u> or <u>Facebook page</u>





NAMI Greater Toledo

For the safety of their staff, co-workers, visitors, families and the community at large, NAMI Greater Toledo decided to temporarily close their offices and begin working remotely. This change in office space did not deter their work though. NAMI Greater Toledo is offering weekly virtual peer and family support groups.

They are using social media to spread selfcare messages. Each week, the creative expressions program is posting creative ideas for self care during quarantine. This gives the public different ideas for self care/ ways to get creative with their family while at home.

Visit their <u>website</u> for more information. Community members in need of support and/or resources, can contact their family navigator at famnav@namitoledo.org

NAMI Greater Toledo 21 hrs · 📀

VIRTUAL CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS! (Each week, NAMI's Creative Expressions Program Coordinator and volunteers will post creative things to do at home while in quarantine!)

During this time of social distancing, let's all trying to spread a little love and compassion to others! Studies indicate that the very act of giving back to the community/ being kind to others boosts your own happiness, health, and sense of well-being! The Heart Hunters Facebook movement was started by a mom in Galesburg, IL who saw a post about placing hearts in windows for kids to look for while out walking in their neighborhood. She wanted to promote social distancing while doing an activity with her children during a time when we must be so careful. It, now, has grown into much, much more!

Display hearts in your windows, on your doors, or anywhere outside of your home where passersby can easily see them. Hearts can be made from anything (paper, wrapping paper, cereal boxes, tissue paper), just be creative. Not an artist? That's ok. Many of us aren't. Want to go all out? Do it! Out on a walk or drive? Feel free to share pictures of the hearts you see. Some can't get out so these little hearts are very comforting! Happy heart hunting! (Join Heart Hunters group on Facebook to see what others are doing around the country!)





Morrow County Community Center

While the Morrow County Community Center is closed, their workout instructors are finding ways to stay connected to members and the community. They are encouraging healthy habits like exercise by sharing weekly videos on social media.

ACSM certified Personal Trainer and instructor, Caitlin Trainer, is making weekly 30 minute workout videos that are posted on Facebook and Instagram. They are free to members and the community every Monday. Find the workout videos <u>here</u>.

To learn more, visit their website.



Morrow County Community Center March 23 at 11:46 AM · 🔇

The moment we've all been waiting for! Workout video #1! Special thanks to our trainer Caitlin for helping us all stay active and motivated during our shut down! Please post pictures of yourself (doing this workout or ANYTHING you're doing to keep moving) in the comments! If you can't post a pic, leave a note and tell us what you think!



VIMEO.COM

BONUS Dumbbell workout for all fitness levels!

5 minute warm up of choice! This could include walking, jogging, jump...



Childhood Education and Support Services



Big Brothers Big Sisters Northwest Ohio

BBBSNWO is continuously taking and promoting precautionary measures to prevent the spread and contamination of others with COVID-19. Due to these developments, they are encouraging Bigs and Littles to engage in virtual communication, mentoring and activities for the time being. Volunteers are organizing "Virtual mentoring" sessions through Facetime, Skype, phone apps, smart phones, email and messaging platforms. Learn more about their virtual mentoring here.

For more information, visit their website.





Partners in Education

Partners in Education develops programming for area K-12 schools and fosters partnerships with schools by engaging businesses, nonprofit agencies and faith partners in service to students. Their volunteers are unable to interact face-to-face with students during this time. Instead, they are offering online resources to students and their families. Online activities are academic and social/emotional focused that allow the whole family to participate. Partners in Education is sharing resources with partners through their email newsletter. Email eobryan@partnerstoledo.org for resources to support young children in adolescents

During the crisis, the organization is partnering with Connecting Kids to Meals to help ensure students have access to nutritious meals.

For more information, follow Partners in Education on Twitter and Facebook, or visit their <u>website</u>.



Partners in Education Spring 2020 E-newsletter



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Good Grief of Northwest Ohio, Inc.

Good Grief of Northwest Ohio, Inc. provides support for grieving children, teens, young adults, and their families, who have experienced the death of someone significant in their lives. During this time, Good Grief is organizing video conference support groups for older kids and activity packets and email/phone support for younger kids.

Good Grief was featured on <u>ABC 13</u> to talk about the challenges their organization faces as their focus is to bring kids together in difficult times. However, they are continuing to share creative ways to stay connected.

The organization is continuing to assist new families in need of support by phone (419) 360-4939 or visit their <u>website</u>.





YWCA Child Care Resource & Referral

The YWCA Child Care Resource and Referral Center continues to assist families with locating child care and supporting child care providers.

Outreach Parent Specialists support families by completing Virtual home visits and family fun literacy groups using Zoom and Step Up to Quality Specialists have called more than 700 child care programs to answer provider questions.

As an information hub, the resource and referral center is providing important information and COVID-19 updates for both families and providers on social media, their website, Zoom and Google Voice. For providers, they are sharing resources from ODJFS licensing changes related to the pandemic to strategies to manage their mental health through this time, and available supports for small businesses. They have a <u>provider page</u> on their website with information related to COVID-19 for child care program owners and administrators, teaching staff, and families. The information shared with families has two focuses: 1) to connect families of essential workers with pandemic child care programs so that they have a safe, healthy place for their child while they do their essential duties, and 2) to support families who are now working at home while caring for young children.

For more information, follow their social media accounts or visit their websites: <u>YWCA Events</u>, <u>COVID-19 Information</u> <u>YWCA Northwest</u> <u>YWCA Toledo</u> <u>YWCA Mansfield</u> <u>YWCA Lima</u>





Food Insecurity and Other SDOH Challenges



The University Church

During this time, Rogers Community Hub is expanding their Personal Care Pantry. The pantry typically provides hygiene items and clothes to every student in their high school. However, the hub has expanded to become a community closet, available to our entire learning community and families. Items are distributed weekly during the school's meal distribution. The Community Closet is listed as a resource in the United Way's 2-1-1 database.

The hub is continuing to spread the word about resources that are available to families during school shut-down: financial assistance, pantries and meal distribution, online learning, mental health, etc. These are shared through a <u>Resource Spreadsheet</u> via Facebook and email.

For more information, visit their <u>Facebook page</u> or <u>website</u>.





East Toledo Family Center and Senior Center

While the East Toledo Family Center and Senior Center are closed to the general public for the safety of the community and staff, the center is providing important resources for seniors during this time.

The Senior Center is providing Grab & Go meals and home delivered meals to seniors, over 60, Monday through Friday. They are distributing shelf stable boxes with 10 days worth of meals for those in need and are doing well checks by phone to hundreds of seniors each week. Staff is also assisting seniors with grocery shopping.

The center continues to provide transportation to medical appointments and is handout in various information on the virus and preventive measures with face-to-face programming.

For more information, visit their <u>website</u> or call (419)691-2254.





Lutheran Social Services of Northwestern Ohio

To continue to serve food pantry clients, Lutheran Social Services has deployed a creative option to distribute food. They created a drive-thru on their side drive and a walk up station to abide by social distancing guidelines. Volunteers pre packaged hundreds of bags food and meat is ready to distribute in large coolers. Personal needs products are also available. Clients are able to choose what they need during this time.

To learn more, visit their website, Facebook, Twitter or LinkedIn.

1,455 individuals in 4 days 21,825 meals

Lutheran Social Services of Northwestern Ohio is (2) asking
for donations — at Lutheran Social Services of Northwestern Ohio.

April 1 at 9:24 AM · Toledo · 🕄

We wanted to share a video of the efforts of LSS Food Pantry during this time of need. We served 1,455 individuals in four days, 21,825 meals. Unfortunately, COVID-19 closures are impacting our ability to sufficiently serve our most vulnerable neighbors. We are experiencing a dire decrease in funding and volunteers to keep our neighbors fed and protected.

If you would like to make a donation, we can continue this much needed service to our community. Please visit https://bit.ly/39rvrLv





Fulton County Job & Family Services

Fulton County Job and Family Services is assisting families affected by the COVID-19 pandemic through Prevention, Retention & Contingency (PRC) funding. \$2,500 are available to assist with shelter, childcare, utilities, repairs for homeowner necessities such as: furnace repair, water heater and among other needs. More information on the pandemic PRC can be found <u>here</u>.

FCJFS continues to provide updated resources and and services to community members: Food assistance, SNAP, Medicaid, TANF, etc.

For more information, visit <u>Fulton County Ohio-Department of Job</u> <u>& Family Services</u> on Facebook or <u>online</u>.



