

CCSC COVID-19 UPDATE

Pandemic Brings More First-Time Visitors to CCSC



Emergency Services Volunteer Carmen Canavati-Fitzpatrick speaks with a caller seeking financial aid.

As savings and resources shrink, need grows. Of the financial pledges CCSC has paid since mid-March, 71.5% were for clients visiting for the first time.

"The longer people are out of work, the less savings they can rely on and the more help they need with food, rent and utilities," said Emergency Services-Central Manager Nolonda Jones. "We've helped 358 families with financial assistance since March."

CCSC is grateful for the \$141,000 in funding it recently received from the Greater Houston COVID-19 Recovery Fund Grant jointly led by the United Way of Greater Houston and the Greater Houston Community Foundation.

This funding allows CCSC to provide higher amounts of rent assistance as clients face even deeper financial insecurity during these difficult times.

In the 15 weeks since CCSC's Emergency Services food pantries began modified operations to meet the greatly increased needs of those impacted by the pandemic, 9,285 food packages have been distributed. This number continues to reflect an increase of a slightly more than three times that of the same period in 2019. Children continue to be about 41% of those served with food assistance.

CCSC is thankful for all who have sent prayers, funds, nonperishable food, bags, hygiene items and masks to its Emergency Services programs. Heartfelt appreciation also goes out to the staff and volunteers of our member churches who are running food drives to help keep our food pantry shelves stocked.

There continues to be slow progress with our grocery suppliers' ability to accommodate bulk food orders. It is definitely community donations that are keeping us able to serve more, and serve better. Thank you!

The mission of the Christian Community Service Center (CCSC) is to serve the poor, hungry, disabled, and otherwise needy while respecting their religious, ethnic or cultural differences.

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