

## *The saying, It Takes a Village, is being played out right in front of me*

The COVID-19 global pandemic has required all of us to adjust to a “new normal” very quickly. While COVID-19 is changing how we serve our communities, nothing can change our commitment to the YWCA mission and doing the work of justice every day.

For the past month Kathy, our Senior Center Director, and her staff of kitchen aides and drivers, have adjusted schedules, menus, and routes to ensure that our home bound seniors continue to receive the nutritious and delicious meals upon which they rely.

Kathy gave us permission to share her experience with you.

*This month, our team has exceeded all my expectations.*

*Realizing we are the last line of defense for seniors who are home bound and rely on us to get them a nutritious meal and to check on them, the kitchen staff has prepped frozen and shelf stable meals. Since closing our Senior Center on March 16th, we have delivered 7,361 meals to our home bound clients in the community-including both Glendale & El Mirage. New referrals are coming in daily and are requiring immediate Home Delivered Meal Service.*

*In addition to the increased referrals into our Home Delivered Meals program, this past month we have distributed 1,284 meals through our mobile meal pick-up for our seniors who are still able to leave their homes.*

*From doing dishes to breaking down boxes and getting rid of the trash to calling our seniors to check on their well-being, the team have all jumped into to help out where they can. The saying, “It takes a village”, is being played out right in front of me.*



On average, we are enrolling 5 new people into our program every day and it costs \$20/day to feed a senior. From everything we've experienced so far, we can only expect our seniors' needs to grow. We'll be ready, we are gearing up to serve up to 1,000 seniors each week.

Friends, thank you for your previous support of our mission and programs. Because of our donors and supporters, we have been able to transition our services and create alternatives that continue to put the needs of our clients first. I hope that we can count on you once again to ensure that our community's most vulnerable are taken care of.

Wishing you health and well-being,

Debbie Esparza  
Chief Executive Officer  
YWCA Metropolitan Phoenix

PS - We are committed to supporting our community through this ongoing crisis and together we can let our seniors know they are not alone. Please give today!

*Donations to YWCA Metropolitan Phoenix affords Arizona residents the opportunity to receive dollar-for-dollar tax benefits - up to \$400 for single filers and up to \$800 for those filing jointly. The deadline for making a charitable contribution for the 2019 tax year is April 15. Our Qualifying Charitable Organization code is 20302. Please consult with your qualified tax advisor.*