

MISSION OF LOVE CHARITIES

NEWSLETTER

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THE CONTINUING IMPACT OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

The ongoing coronavirus pandemic continues to make a major impact on the operations of Mission of Love Charities.

First of all, the health, economic and social effects of the pandemic have been severe for many individuals and families. People who were making it before are now out of work and face multiple crises because they don't have enough food to eat and they cannot pay the rent and may be evicted. The result is that the number of people seeking help and support for basic needs such as food and housing assistance has increased dramatically - some days as much as tenfold.

While Mission of Love Charities continues to provide food to needy families because of the financial assistance of grants and donations from Prince George's County government, the State of Maryland and local foundations and individuals, its resources are stretched thin. However, we are committed to finding a way to provide food for the people who come to us in need.

Additionally, many individuals and families are faced with housing insecurity because they simply do not have the money to pay the rent. Again, Mission of Love Charities does what it can to help these people, but our financial resources available for housing assistance are inadequate. While we are able to help some, unfortunately, we are unable to help others. We continue to seek out financial support to help fund the assistance we would like to give these people who are faced with the possibility of eviction.

Meanwhile, the mandated restrictions of the pandemic restrict much of the in-person interaction that we customarily provide. While we do what we can outside of the facility, interpersonal activities in the facility are limited at best. We wish to follow the protocols provided by the public health officials while also protecting the health and safety of our employees, volunteers and clientele.

Needless to say, this is a difficult situation, and it appears that the restrictions mandated by the pandemic will be with us for the indefinite future.



MY CORNER

BY DEBORAH MARTINEZ, CEO OF MISSION OF LOVE CHARITIES

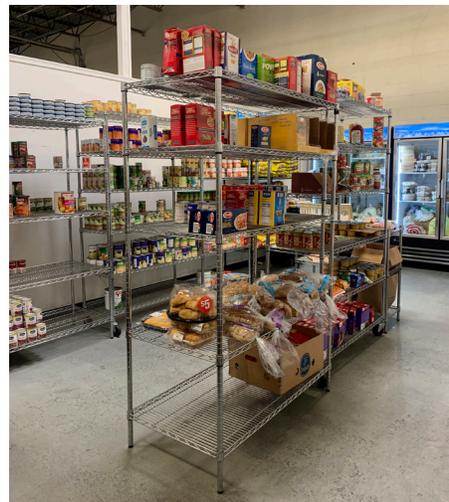
to Mission of Love Charities in desperate need of help.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

In order to sustain our work and help these people who are in dire need, we are reaching out to the community to ask our supporters and stakeholders to partner with us by joining the Industrial Partners Council. We know these current and prospective partners share our values and commitment to our community and to the people in need in our community.

WHAT THE MISSION IS DOING

Food Pantry



Operating the only five-day-a-week Food Pantry in Prince George's County remains a priority for Mission of Love Charities. The number of individuals and families who are going hungry because of lack of money to buy food had increased dramatically, and Mission of Love Charities is committed to serving them as best we can. Stocking and operating the Food Pantry continues to be a major expense, but it is an essential service that Mission of Love Charities is committed to operate.

The mission of Mission of Love Charities has always been to serve homeless and low-income families and individuals in the community.

Mission of Love Charities programs and services provide basic needs assistance in the form of food, financial assistance for rent and other housing costs, clothing, furniture, showers, laundry, computer access. Mission of Love Charities is also planning on re-instituting its Workforce Development program.

Everyone served shows proof that they are at or below 150% of federal poverty guidelines. These are poor needy people.

We are now reaching out to our friends and colleagues in the community to organize a formal support group that we will call an Industrial Partners Council. Corporations, foundations and individuals who choose to join the Council will make a commitment to support Mission of Love Charities through a financial donation and other actions that help sustain the work of Mission of Love Charities.

Since its inception, The Mission has successfully supported about 400,000 individuals and families, and we want to support more. However, over the last several months, the destructive effects of the pandemic have created a dramatic increase in the number of individuals and families who come

Financial Assistance for rent, utilities and other housing costs

While our capability to help people with housing insecurity, i.e., rent and utility payments, is limited due to pandemic restrictions, we are still able to help some families and individuals, when funds are available. We could help many more families with more support.

Basic, Essential Support Services for People in Need

Despite limitations mandated by the coronavirus pandemic, Mission of Love Charities is able to provide people with basic support services such as showers, access to laundry machines, free clothing and free furniture, access to computers and a designated place to receive personal mail.

Referrals for primary care, dental care and mental health

Mission of Love Charities continues to seek out and explore possible collaborations with health care providers so that we can have a more seamless and reliable support system for the people we serve.

After-School and Weekend Supplementary Education Programs

Mission of Love Charities is seeking partnerships and funding to create after-school and weekend supplementary education programs for school-aged children. The remote learning process being utilized by school systems is not working well for those children whose economic circumstances prevent them from having access to those programs. Supplementary education programs are needed to ensure that these children are not left behind.

MY CORNER *CONTINUED*

Workforce Development

In addition to providing food and housing assistance, Mission of Love Charities sees the long-term solution to helping these needy people get them back on their feet and become economically self-sufficient through a workforce development, education and skills training program. Mission of Love Charities has years of experience in this task, and although this initiative is currently curtailed due to the pandemic restrictions, the organization is planning a new, enhanced workforce development program in a new facility beginning in 2021. Currently, Mission of Love Charities is in talks with professional associations and local educational institutions to develop, implement and manage training and certification programs for people seeking employment. While basic employability skills are a priority for this program, additional certification programs will be established to train water treatment technicians, terrazzo craftspeople and Nursing Assistants.

THE CREATION OF AN INDUSTRIAL PARTNERS COUNCIL TO SUPPORT THESE ESSENTIAL OPERATIONS

In order to sustain these operations and continue to meet the increased demand for services as best we can, the Mission of Love Charities is creating a formal Industrial Partners Council, which will comprise committed friends and stakeholders who will support the Mission through annual donations

and other advocacy and advisory roles.

It is expected that the Mission of Love Charities Industrial Partners Council would meet annually, virtually for now and hopefully in person in the future. Giving levels in the Sponsors Council will be as follows:
Corporate Member - \$10,000
Industry Member - \$15,000
Founding Member - \$20,000

Members of the Council will be recognized with annual certificates that document their commitment and support to one of the leading organizations in the Prince George's County that serves the most needy people in our community.

Council Members will be joining the ranks of others who are providing significant support to Mission of Love Charities. Among those agencies, foundations and corporations that are already supporting Mission of Love Charities are: Prince George's County Government, the State of Maryland, the University of Maryland Capital Region Health System, Sam Brin, Philip Graham Fund, Greater Washington Community Foundation, Big Lots Foundation, TJX Foundation, Albertsons Foundation, Easterns Automotive and Urban Investment Partners.

The fact is that Mission of Love Charities continues to sustain a growth in revenue through

an aggressive and successful fundraising effort, and these supporters are evidence of the results of that effort.

PLEASE JOIN US



We would hope you would join us in our mission of serving the most needy people of our community. Please join us by becoming a member of the Industrial Partners Council.

For more information, please contact me at dmartinez@molc-inc.org.

Deborah Martinez
Mission of Love Charities CEO

COMMUNITY DAY IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SER NATIONAL

Mission of Love Charities will collaborate with SER National to host a virtual Community Day for students who are interested in STEM on Friday, May 21 from 12 noon to 4 p.m. Students from selected area schools will have access to informative

sessions on motivation and leadership, and they will have the opportunity to participate in a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) competition. For information about participating, call (301) 333-4440.

PLANS FOR WORKFORCE TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS



transportation, shipping, room sets, registration, exhibits and sponsorships. Planning virtual meetings and the use of technology are emphasized. Managing the planning of meetings and events promises to be an expanding field for the future. Once the pandemic gets under control, there will be an explosion of pent-up demand for meetings and conferences. Learning the basics of meetings planning will give new entrants into the industry a leg-up on getting started in an exciting and rewarding career.

For more information about attending the Meetings Planning course, call 301-333-4440.

Mission of Love Charities plans to launch a Workforce Training and Education program in the year to come. Many of the people who come to us in need of food and other basic needs have lost their jobs, and the reality is that it is unlikely they will ever get those jobs back. We have determined that the best solution to their situation is to educate and retrain them for other jobs in the marketplace.

Consequently, we are launching a Workforce Training and Education program that will include training for basic skills, computers and employability, along with curricula that will train participants to become **Certified Nursing Assistants and Certified Water Treatment Technicians**.

Beginning in April and May, Mission of Love Charities will offer a basic skills program with classes in **1) Introduction to Computers and Office 365, 2) ESL (English as a Second Language) Classes, 3) Basic English Language Skills, and 4) Remedial Mathematics**.

Mission of Love Charities is planning two training programs starting in February: Meetings Planning and Employee Readiness Boot Camp.

A six-week introductory class on **Meetings Planning** for people who are hoping to retrain and find a new career is underway. The classes are presented via Zoom for 40-50 minutes every Tuesday and Thursday morning starting at 10:00. The classes teach the basics of meeting planning, including budget, venue selection, contracts, food and beverage planning, speakers, entertainment, décor, housing,

Many of the individuals served by Mission of Love Charities these days have lost their jobs due to the coronavirus pandemic. For most of them, those jobs will never come back. So, they need to retrain and learn new skills so they can find a new job. Mission of Love Charities is committed to helping these people get back on their feet and become self-sustaining economically. A first step toward that goal is the organization's Workforce Development Program's **Employee Readiness Boot Camp**. The Boot Camp will help out-of-work people reset their approach to getting a job, while learning how to be better prepared and ready for a new job. The Employee Readiness Boot Camp will teach basic skills, computer skills and employability skills.

The five-week-long Boot Camp began in February and is held every Tuesday and Thursday morning from 10:00 to 11:15. Sessions are held remotely through digital connections. All participants are required to have their own device for connecting to the Internet and their own connection to the Internet. There is a fee of \$25 for enrolling in the class. The classes cover: Temperament Assessment, Strategic Thinking, 7 Habits of a Highly Effective Person, Racial Sobriety, Situational Leadership, Developing High Performance Teams, Group Development Process, Conflict Resolution, Decision Making and Meetings Management.

An **OSHA Training Program** will be start on April 6. It will focus on training people to become inspectors for the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

MOLC STILL HAS THE ONLY 5-DAY-A-WEEK FOOD PANTRY IN PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

The major increase in the number of people who need food continues to be a big challenge for Mission of Love Charities. We have been fortunate so far in managing to attract financial assistance from the County Government, the State of Maryland, foundations and individuals that helps us meet this need.

It is so heart-wrenching to see people humbled by the economic destruction of the pandemic come to our doors in need of the basics of food supplies, as well as other basic needs like clothing and housing assistance. We place a priority on making sure the Food Pantry is capable of providing food to those who come to us. But the need is great.



The demand for food has increased dramatically because of the coronavirus pandemic. Mission of Love Charities distributes food to hundreds of people every week.

INDUSTRIAL PARTNERS COUNCIL FOUNDED TO CREATE SUPPORT FOR MOLC

Mission of Love Charities is now reaching out to our friends and colleagues in the community to organize a formal support group that we will call an Industrial Partners Council. Corporations, foundations and individuals who choose to join the Council will make a commitment to support Mission of Love Charities through a financial donation and other

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MORE AND MORE PEOPLE NEED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO PAY THE RENT

As the economic impact of the coronavirus pandemic grinds on, more and more people are being faced with the threat of eviction because they do not have the financial resources to pay the rent. In most cases, they were making it before the pandemic, but the pandemic caused them to lose their jobs and without a job, they have little or no income.

Mission of Love Charities has limited financial resources to help people who are faced with the possibility of eviction. Individuals and families are encouraged to contact us if they are threatened with eviction or if they foresee problems in paying the rent. Sometimes we will be able to help with financial assistance. Sometimes, we will be able to help by referring people to another source for assistance. Sometimes, we may be able to negotiate financial arrangements with the landlord. The bottom line is if you are faced with the possibility of losing your home because you cannot pay the rent, you should contact Mission of Love Charities. We will try to help you.



A mobile health care unit from United Medical Center came to Mission of Love Charities to provide clients with testing for HIV, diabetes and Covid, as well as do other health care screening. About 100 people took advantage of the opportunity.