



Harvest
House

Happenings

Vol 28 No 2

www.harvesthousebuffalo.org

March 2020 (2)

If you need us during this difficult time,
please call us at 716-855-0654

Hello to all of our loyal Harvest House friends and family!

I hope you are all well.

Yesterday, as we jumped into week 2 of this crazy and uncertain time we are living in, I found myself encouraged by little things I have been encountering and by learning of new ways we as a ministry can help our community. While everything seems to be changing and more distance is created between people, I am noticing that while the physical distance is greater, the emotional and spiritual distance is closing.



Our regular day to day has been interrupted but in doing so, it has given us an opportunity to meet people on a whole new level. My pastor shared on Sunday morning that throughout history, people of faith have been noted for running into a crisis, running towards sick people in a plague and offering whatever help they could. These moments in history have also been responsible for much of the spread of Christianity because while these people were helping on a physical level, they were also sharing their faith and what drives them to care for the sick and wounded.

***This gave me such a beautiful picture
of what Harvest House is about -***

***Meeting people on a physical level to
gain the opportunity to meet their
needs on a spiritual and emotional
level.***



The need for Harvest House in our community has always been great...but our ministries and the services we offer are needed maybe more now than ever:

Baby & Children's Ministry



Our Baby and Children's Ministry is still available in emergency situations for families in urgent need. Tuesday night we received a call from a provider at Towne Gardens Pediatric Care a few blocks from

Harvest House. They had a young child being tube fed. Her mother could not find PediaSure anywhere and was frantic, worried that her child would be hospitalized if she could not find food. We reached out to our amazing Harvest House family and the very next morning were able to get that supplement to our young neighbor in need. More is still coming in to help this family into the foreseeable future.



In Good Neighbors Health Care we are doing as much work as we can with patients over the phone 24/7. This means refilling prescriptions over the phone, guiding patients through medical and/or dental concerns or questions, screening for symptoms, and providing much needed spiritual and mental health care. Our goal is to make sure our patients continue to have access to vital medications for things like high blood pressure, diabetes, and dental infections so they do not end up in the emergency



We are seeing a limited number of patients who **do not** have flu-like symptoms. In primary care we are assisting graduates of our New Hope Education Center with physicals and requirements needed for urgent calls for nursing support in our healthcare community. Our nursing graduates are needed now more than ever! The only other free clinic in Buffalo, Lighthouse had to close and their patients are being referred to us. The emergency dental clinic at ECMC is having to limit access to dental patients and are grateful to our GN providers for stepping in to care for our community. We are waiving our \$20 administrative service fee at this time.

We are asking individuals in need of medical and dental care to call us before coming down for service. Our hours and protocols for serving here on Jefferson Avenue are evolving every day, following NY State Department of Health guidelines to protect our essential volunteers and staff.



New Ministry: Special thanks to our founder Linda Tatu who is spearheading an effort to sew masks for our support staff and patients. They are colorful and fun and help bring us together in this new era of personal protection.

So....what are some ways you can help? First, and most importantly, PRAY.

Pray for our patients, clients, students and their families, and for our community as a whole. So many of the people we serve are struggling and the fear that has been added by this crisis is making them feel as if they will go over the edge. Pray for each other as we all navigate this scary and uncertain time. Pray for those who are either themselves in a risk category or have loved ones who are.

Pray for our volunteers who are medical professionals and working on the front lines of this and changing the way they practice medicine to accommodate and adhere to the new guidelines. Pray for our volunteers who are not able to come into the ministries right now. We miss you all more than you can imagine. Once this emergency has passed, we will need you more than ever!

Pray for our Harvest House staff who are moving mountains both in the ministries and at home to keep our mission moving forward. Our small paid staff of 12 are working harder than ever. Pray for our Harvest House leadership. For our president, Carol Murphy, for our medical and dental directors, Dr. David Holmes and Dr. Patty Haberman, and for our Board of Directors as they work tirelessly to keep Harvest House open and running during this difficult time. This team is strategizing our resources and reaching out to our funding community to help us remain sustainable through this difficult time. One of our biggest fundraising campaigns, Bottles for Babies, will certainly take a financial hit this year as our churches are closed during our Lenten drive. Pray for our financial viability so that we can continue to address the growing needs of the community we are committed to serve.

Please know that we are praying for all of you each day. We are still here for you. If you need anything at all or have a concern, please do not hesitate to call, text or email.

We will continue to keep you posted as we all move through this. We are thankful for each of you!

Stay well!

Kait Gannon
Program Coordinator
Good Neighbors Health Care

