

SPECIAL EDITION December 4, 2020

Food Resource Updates due to COVID-19

RVA Community Cares recognizes that availability of community resources is changing rapidly during this time due to COVID-19. This supplement to our regular Community Resource Inventory (CRI) will keep you updated on the most recent information available. This document will be updated and redistributed frequently (every other week), so check the date to make sure you have the most recent version. If you would like to report new resources or changes/corrections to the information below, please contact Brenna Pevato (bpevato@hqi.solutions) at HQI.

Text "**FOOD**" or "**COMIDA**" to 877-877 to find free meals for your kids today (through [No Kid Hungry](#)).

Virginia Governor announced new statewide measures to contain COVID-19. Read announcement [here](#).

Benefits.gov: Visit the [website](#) for information and resources on COVID-19, unemployment, healthcare, loans/businesses, stimulus checks, hotlines and more.

CommonHelp: Call 1-855-635-4370 or visit <https://www.commonhelp.virginia.gov/> to apply for assistance with food, child care, heating/cooling bills, health care and cash assistance. Offices may be closed but clients can call for assistance.

ReEstablish Richmond: COVID-19 Resources [here](#). May refer clients through link at bottom of page.

Richmond City Residents: Visit [RVA Strong](#) or [Help1RVA](#) to learn more about the COVID-19 response and resources. **Public Schools:** Summer Hours for the Family Support Hotline – questions (in English or Spanish) about food, technology, or anything COVID-19 related, call hotline at 804.780.6195. Summer hours are 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday. If you leave a voicemail, you will be called back within 48 hours.

Central Virginia Public COVID-19 Information: Click [here](#).

Statewide Resources: [COVID-19 Virginia Resources](#). Search for assistance with food, childcare, finances, mental health, safety. Also available as App for Apple phones (coming soon for Android).

211: Individuals can call 211 or visit <http://211.org/> for additional information on food resources.

Información en Español: 804.646.0145



Aging and Persons with Disabilities

Use the following helpline for Older Adults 60 + and those 18+ with physical and sensory disabilities: **804.646.1082**. Hours are Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. The office provides the following services:

- Delivered food items that will require preparation. (Based on availability of foods and volunteer drivers).

Capital Area Partnership Uplifting People (CAPUP)

- Food pantry open Tuesday-Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00p.m. (**outside**), but appointments filling up quickly.
- Call 804.788.0050 for assistance.

Church Hill Wellness Center

- Food pantry open every third Thursday from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Feed More

Continuing Operations:

- Deemed an essential business.
- Continuing to operate food pantries and soup kitchens. Use the [Agency Locator](#) to find a food pantry or soup kitchen near you, or call 804.521.2500 ext. 631.
- USDA National Hunger Hotline: 1.866.3.HUNGRY or 1.877.8.HAMBRE (7:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.).

Looking for volunteers:

- Please complete the [Volunteer Application Form!](#)
- Once application is filled out, team will reach out and inform individuals of upcoming opportunities.

Temporarily homebound due to COVID-19

- Can qualify for Meals on Wheels, must call Feed More (804.521.2500) to be enrolled.
- Seniors 60+ may enroll through Senior Connections (call 804.343.3000).

Grocery Stores

Dedicating specific hours for seniors and vulnerable populations to shop. News article [here](#).

- ALDI: Open 8:30 a.m. -9:30 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays for seniors and at-risk customers.
- BJ's Wholesale Club: Anyone 60+ can shop from 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Monday - Saturday.
- Costco: Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, from 8 to 9 a.m., are designated for shoppers 60 and older.
- Dollar General: Opening 1 hour before normal business hours for senior shoppers.
- Food Lion: 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. seniors and at-risk customers can shop every Monday and Wednesday.
- Fresh Market: Designating 8:00 a.m. -9:00 a.m. on weekdays to seniors and at-risk individuals.
- Kroger: Exclusive shopping for seniors 60+ 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday.

Allowing customers to use EBT for grocery pick-up.



Grocery Stores

- Market at 25th: Online shopping available: <https://www.themarketat25th.com/shop-online>. Food delivery available within 8-mile radius or use Door Dash if farther.
- Publix: 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. 65+ can shop Tuesdays and Wednesdays.
- Rite Aid: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 a.m. seniors and at-risk customers can shop on weekdays.
- Sam's Club: 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. seniors and at-risk customers Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- Target: Dedicating 1st hour of shopping every Tuesday and Wednesday for the elderly and those with underlying health conditions.
- Trader Joe's: Dedicating first hour (either 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. or 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.) to seniors and at-risk customers. Call your local store for exact hours.
- Walgreens: 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. seniors-only shopping every Tuesday (all-day discounts).
- Walmart: Hosting 1-hour long senior shopping event every Tuesday for customers 60+. Every day from 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. seniors 60+, customers with disabilities and anyone at-risk can pick up groceries. When placing the order, select "At Risk Only". Call your local store for more information.
- Whole Foods: Opening 1 hour before normal business hours for customers 60+.

Walmart

- Allowing customers with SNAP benefits to use their SNAP EBT cards when they order groceries online and pick them up at the store.
- Process: (1) Order: Order groceries at walmart.com/grocery or on the Walmart Grocery mobile app. (2) Checkout: During checkout, select EBT Card as payment method. (3) Pickup: Swipe EBT card with the Walmart associate when you arrive at the pickup location
- Click [here](#) to learn more about how the process works.

Medicare Advantage Plans

- **Humana:** Well Dine Program - Call agent or care coordinator to request food assistance. Beneficiary may receive 14 delivered meals (either frozen or shelf stable based on home storage). Process takes approximately 5-7 days.

Peter Paul Development Center

- Offering virtual lessons [here](#).
- Updated list of community resources [here](#).
- Community food distribution every first and third Wednesday 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in partnership with Feed More.

Richmond Animal Shelters

- **Richmond Animal Care and Control:** Set up a food pantry outside of their shelter on Chamberlayne Avenue to hold supplies like pet food, treats, and cat litter for anyone who needs it. Also have human items (like pasta and tuna).
- **Richmond Animal League:** Pet Food Pantry open 24/7.



Senior Connections

- Offering helpline (through Area Agency on Aging) at 804.343.3000 Monday – Friday 8:30am – 5pm. Conducting assessments by telephone.
- Coordinating with Meals on Wheels to provide once a week delivery to individuals enrolled in Home Delivered Meals Program. Call 804.343.3047 for questions or to register.
- Individuals not enrolled can receive non-perishable food items once a week on a temporary basis. Call 804.343.3047 for more information.
- Individuals part of the Friendship Café: services shifted to home-delivered meals. Definition of homebound expanded due to COVID-19. Homebound includes individuals who cannot leave home because of COVID-19 (i.e. they have a car but cannot use it) and need supportive services. Friendship Café offering individuals a conference line to stay in touch virtually during COVID.
- Offices open by appointment only.

Shalom Farms

- Shoppers can follow [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#) pages for updates. Each market has their own code for shoppers to receive text updates and reminders. Codes available at the market.
- Website with information about Mobile Market program locations <http://shalomfarms.org/shop/>
- Recommended stores to shop: Hopkins, Red Mini, River City Market, Race Track Market, and College Mart. These stores all have the most variety and quantity of both Shalom Farms produce and conventionally grown fruits.
- Value of coupons has increased (\$45 for Seniors, \$30 for WIC which is the max), AAA (Area Agency on Aging) and WIC looking into mailing coupon booklets.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

- Recipients of SNAP will soon be able to use benefits to order groceries online. Delivery option will also be available.
- Benefits will be automatically loaded onto recipient's cards. Read full article [here](#).
- SNAP recipients may also order groceries online through [Walmart](#) and [Amazon](#).
- Call 1.855.635.4370 to see if you are eligible for emergency benefits. Emergency benefits automatically loaded onto EBT cards November 16 for those that are not already receiving the maximum allotment.
- Virginia Fresh Match: In response to COVID-19 Virginia Fresh Match has been working with neighborhood grocery stores and farmers markets to offer 50% off fresh fruit and vegetables when shopping with SNAP/EBT. In Richmond, The Market at 25th (<https://www.themarketat25th.com/>) offers this discount on frozen fruit and vegetables as well. Frozen foods without added sugar, fat, or salt will qualify. If a client has a specific question the grocery store staff will be able to help guide them through the process. Inform individuals to check social media for changes in hours due to COVID-19.



Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

- [Fresh EBT](#) website makes it easy and secure to check food stamp balances on your phone. Free service available in English and Spanish.

U.S. Department of Agriculture – Food and Nutrition Service

- **Child Nutrition Programs (from [website](#)):**
- Students who receive free or reduced lunch while at school are eligible to receive assistance while schools are closed. Nutrition assistance questions should be sent to feedingkids@usda.gov.
- Nationwide waivers for access to meals during pandemic.
- As of August 31, 2020 flexibilities extended to allow summer meal program operators to continue serving free meals to all children in the fall months (up until December 31, 2020).

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Clinics

- Operating under normal hours with normal schedule. Waivers to protect health and wellness of participants passed includes: physical presence (includes blood work), remote benefit issuance, food package substitution, routine monitoring, compliance investigations, separation of duties. See more information about waivers [here](#).
- Call 804.482.5446 (Cary Street office), 804.786.3201 (Richmond Community Hospital WIC Office), or 804.205.9816 (Southside Office) to receive directions on how to schedule visits and order baby formula.
- Offering services over the phone. Call 877.835.5942.

COUNTY SCHOOLS

Use the [School Meal Finder](#) to find meal sites while schools are closed. Last updated 10/1/20.

See [VDOE Website](#) for a list of approved meal service sites throughout the entire state. Updated as of 11/16/20.

Chesterfield County ([Virtual learning in the Fall](#))

- County Public Schools will continue to provide meals for children to pick up without charge and regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability and without discrimination. Meals are provided on a first-come, first-served basis through June 18, 2021.
- Children do not have to be present to pick up meals. To pick up meals without a child present, please tell the staff member your child's first and last names and age.
- Meal distribution will occur on Mondays and Wednesdays. Each day you will pick up the current day's and following day's meals. On Fridays, the meals will include meals for Friday, Saturday and Sunday for each child.
- Dinner is included at select sites in accordance with the USDA's recent extension.
- Beginning December 2, curbside pickup for FREE meals for children 18 and under will be offered at the locations listed on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Website [here](#).



Hanover County (In person and virtual learning in the Fall) Meals for Online Students

- All Hanover County Public Schools students will be able to get free breakfast and lunch through at least December 31 (based on U.S. Department of Agriculture announcing flexibility for meals to be provided to students at no charge to the start of the year). Families can still add funds to their [MySchoolBucks](#) accounts for a la carte items.
- Offering curbside grab-and go breakfast and lunches for Online School families at no charge on Mondays and Thursdays from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. If there is no school on Monday, meals will be served the next day of school.
- **WHERE:** Visit [website](#) to see a list of schools, with an * designating the school as a curbside pick up location (see days/hours above).
- The meals provided will be the same for all children regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability, and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service. For more information about this program, please contact HCPS Food Services at (804) 365-4566.
- For more information, contact Food Services at 804.365.4566 or visit the [website](#).

Henrico County (Virtual learning start in the Fall)

- Offering curbside pick-up at all schools and bus drop-offs in neighborhoods for hot and cold breakfasts and lunches through end of school year. For a list of bus drop-offs, click [here](#).
- Meals provided to any child 18 and younger at all school locations and designated bus stops. Parents and guardians can pick up meals at any of the locations regardless of where their student is enrolled. Not required to provide student names or I.D. numbers to receive meals. School district is strongly encouraging families to apply for free and reduced meals benefits to continue to receive meals after the program expires.
- Meals distributed at all elementary, middle, and high schools on Mondays through Thursdays from 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Food for Fridays will be handed out on Thursdays.
- Buses distribute meals to neighborhoods two days a week. Buses visit neighborhoods on Mondays and Wednesday and make 30-minute stops at each location, from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Meals are delivered for that day and days in between stops. See [website](#) for information.



Richmond City (Virtual learning in the Fall)

- Richmond City Public Schools Fall Meal Distribution (Effective Monday, August 31) [HERE](#). Website shows times of stops around the city. Students receive one breakfast and one lunch each Monday through Thursday with three breakfasts and three lunches on Fridays. Students no longer need to provide their assigned pin number to receive a meal beginning September 8. Parents can receive a meal without the student present or student can receive meal on their own. See website above for details, delivery times, and locations.
- There will be no meal distribution during winter break, December 21st – January 1st. Winter meal pack order applications have closed.
- Information available in both English and Spanish.
- Continuing program to provide weekly groceries to 200 of the most vulnerable families.

