



Evangel Hall Mission

A community of compassion. A place of hope.™

April 22, 2020

Dear Friends,

Navigating the pandemic has profoundly changed, and, at times, challenged how we function in our daily lives. It's changed how we interact with loved ones, peers, and colleagues. It's changed how our places of worship and work operate.

As you know, ehm has been finding ways to help people challenged by poverty, homelessness, and physical and mental illness, to get through the pandemic. We've been creating safe, sustainable ways to deliver social services during this crisis.

So, how is ehm making these decisions in a still-changing landscape? How is ehm able to serve vulnerable individuals while aligning with public health directives intended to reduce disease transmission?

The key has been to stay informed and stay true to ehm's core service values.

Since the early days of pandemic planning, ehm has participated in discussions with multiple sector leaders, decision-makers and advocates in order to stay informed, share information and identify solutions. ehm continues to participate in discussions to develop new best practices and service models that align with public health directives.

This has informed ehm's decisions about what kind of programming we can offer during this pandemic. The safety of clients, residents, staff, and volunteers is paramount. Following public health directives is essential.

For now, this means maintaining physical distancing between staff, clients, and residents. It means asking our volunteers and donors to stay away from the premises.

Maintaining this distancing feels counter-intuitive to ehm's work that emphasizes building relationships and community with people who are otherwise isolated. It is a heavy emotional burden to bear at times. But, the safest way to provide supports, in this moment, is to do so from a physical distance. That doesn't mean ehm has stopped helping. It just means that helping is happening in a different way than before.

ehm also recognizes that this distancing is difficult for many of you, our donors and volunteers. So many of you are used to driving donations down to our doors, coming and serving meals, and lending a helping hand.





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Many of you have become familiar and comforting faces to our clients, residents, and staff. We know you miss being here. And, please know, we miss you too.

We look forward to the time when public health directives change to allow for more close interactions. We will be prepared to adjust our programming and will keep you informed of these changes. This will include when and how volunteers and donors can once again be physically present.

I am grateful for your continued understanding as we restrict program delivery to staff only and are not accepting donations of food and clothing quite yet. And I am deeply grateful for how you continue to hold ehm's work close to your hearts.

Thank you for allowing ehm's staff to be your hands in the community. Our staff are fully committed to our shared values of extending assistance to society's most marginalized and vulnerable individuals, of helping feed hungry neighbours, of extending compassion and grace without judgement.

Thank you for your support and your care.

With deepest thanks,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Ainsley'.

Ainsley Chapman
Executive Director

