



COVID-19 IMPACT

Hollywood Food Coalition UPDATE



This past Sunday night's rainy meal service at our weekend street location.

Dear Hollywood Food Coalition Community,

As you know, [Governor Newsom](#) and the [State of California Public Health Officer](#) have jointly issued Stay At Home orders for all individuals living in the State of California. However, as an organization that provides support to vulnerable populations, [the Hollywood Food Coalition is considered to be providing an essential service and is allowed to continue our nightly meal program](#) as long as important health regulations are followed and social distancing is observed.

Right now, we are seeing a daily increase in the numbers of people needing our services. With so many meal programs discontinuing their services right now, our clients are concerned that we will also close.

However, we are committed to continuing to serve our dinner each night. The Covid-19 epidemic has forced us to change the logistics of our meal program from a seated dinner in our dining room to a takeout dinner model. Our amazing staff and volunteers are working hard to be able to continue to serve our hot meal 7 nights a week, rain or shine, as long as it is possible to do so.

We are all concerned about our client's safety. Because we need to ensure social distancing, we can't allow our clients to linger on the premises after they have received their meals. This is hard on all of us because we value the social interaction of a communal meal and creating relationships that help our clients build better lives. However, we continue to help them with basic emergency needs, such as blankets, gloves, and beanies, to the best of our ability.

We have found many of our clients don't really understand the seriousness of the COVID-19 virus and what they need to do to help keep themselves safe.



HFC now limits volunteers to no more than ten people in the kitchen.

As always, it's our responsibility to share critical information with our clients about issues that concern their health & safety and do our best to direct them to resources accordingly.

We are happy the city has placed hand washing stations at multiple locations where un-housed people can access them. Frequent handwashing is vital to helping prevent the spread of the virus. We support the community's efforts to place additional hand washing stations around the city along with other sanitary facilities. We are providing a link [HERE](#) which lists the current locations of handwashing stations and encourage all of you to disseminate this information widely.

This past week has been challenging for everyone. We are deeply grateful to all the restaurants who have donated thousands of pounds of beautiful food to us as they are having to shutter their businesses. We have been able to share this food with many other organizations who have asked us for help. The helping spirit of so many people this past week has been a



We are still here every day, preparing delicious meals.

This allows everyone to help without us having to ask people to leave if we exceed our volunteer limits.

Please be mindful of your own health—If you don't feel well, please stay home and rest. In addition, please be aware that even with social distancing and all the other precautions we take, you will be around other people and there is always the risk that someone will be an asymptomatic carrier of the virus.

We are following all the protocols and practices recommended by the CDC, California Department of Public Health and other government agencies in relation to cleaning and safety in the kitchen workspace.

We are weathering this crisis week by week. We will send out regular bulletins to keep you current with the "Happenings at HoFoCo". We hope you will all stay in touch with us. Email us at info@hofoco.org and let us know how you are doing.

No matter how difficult the times are, the values we all share to be kind, respectful and caring with our clients and each other will carry us through.

With Gratitude,

Everyone here at The Hollywood Food Coalition

reminder that we are a community working together to do whatever we can to help each other get through this difficult, unprecedented, ever changing situation.

We are also grateful to all our volunteers, both new and old, who continue to come to help us prepare and serve our meal. We are limiting the number of people in the kitchen to less than 10 at any one time, so please check our volunteer sign-up [HERE](#) to find time that works with your schedule rather than just showing up. .



Fresh fruit ready to eat. We have always emphasized nutrition, which is needed now more than ever.

[Volunteer Here](#)

[Donate Here](#)

Mission: to feed and serve the immediate needs of the hungry every night of the year so they can build better lives.

Vision: a city where everyone has food, community, and support.

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