

December 8, 2020

Dear Community Friends,

I am sending you this email to let you know that Coldwater is still here in the community going strong and serving families in need of food and clothing during this difficult time. Although we have adapted our procedures to keep everyone safe, we have not shut our doors since the pandemic began. When some regular volunteers had to step back, new volunteers stepped forward. We truly live in an amazing community where citizens are willing to step up when they see a need.

Thanks to our volunteers, our food pantry distributed the same amount of groceries we would distribute in a year from March through July 2020. We helped close to 100 new people seeking assistance who shared stories of fear and hopelessness due to lost jobs or being furloughed. The Summer Lunches & BBQs programs experienced more than a 60 percent increase in their participation rates this past summer.

For Thanksgiving, we gave out 172 turkeys and holiday side dishes, as well as produce boxes, two bags of groceries, and hygiene items. We will do the same for our **Christmas distribution on Saturday, December 19, from 10:30 am to 2:00 pm.** We welcome you to share this information with anyone who you find in need.

**After December 19**, Coldwater will be by appointment only Monday through Friday (except Christmas, the Friday after Christmas, and New Year's Day) until January 9 for our first Saturday food pantry and clothes closet of 2021.

Just in case you are not familiar with Coldwater's regular schedule, our normal hours are: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays January through October 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays November and December By appointment Monday through Friday throughout the year

For more information about what is going on at Coldwater, please visit www.coldwater.me.

We hope that your congregations are bonding together to give each other hope during this heartbreaking year. We pray for the safety of your members and guidance for your leadership.

May God bless and keep all of you safe,

Monica Humbard Executive Director

Coldwater of Lee's Summit