



April 13, 2020

Dear Friends,

Volunteers of America of Oklahoma sends our warmest greetings and sincere hope that you and your family are personally healthy and remaining safe during the shelter in place orders. Everyone is experiencing the impact of COVID-19 in some manner. The daily news is filled with worrisome stories and statistics. We, like you, are sending our thoughts and prayers to the individuals and families directly suffering as a result of the corona virus.

In spite of the anxiety caused by the current environment, our statewide community is a shining example of the caring and generous human spirit of our citizens. You have collectively offered support, helped with groceries, visited with seniors via Facetime, brightened days by delivering beautiful spring bouquets to our seniors and staff, helped the homeless with essential needs, ensured our staff have sufficient supplies and many other acts of kindness. Your generosity has simply been amazing!



Thank you!

It is our collective hope that with continued community-wide cooperation to remain “physically distanced” and to continue to “shelter in place” that we will see the curve begin to flatten in our state. **We must succeed and we will succeed.**

Our mission has always been to help Oklahoma’s most vulnerable with the care and support they might not otherwise receive. Those we serve are our top priority—those with special needs, our seniors, the homeless, the disabled and veterans—ensuring their individual safety, health and economic stability during this crisis.

Our staff members are among our State’s finest caregivers who are reporting for work each day maintaining CDC protocols and helping our clients overcome their fears and the various challenges they are facing during this time of sheltering in place and social isolation. Our teams are working 24/7 to keep residential facilities and supportive service locations as safe as possible.



Our direct support staff members are *our heroes, community heroes and the lifeline* for the people who depend upon our services. Our caregivers are resilient, hopeful and know how to build safe environments in which individuals thrive. Our additional concern is that we work to keep our staff members healthy and safe.

Our resources have been stretched just like our entire community. Our dedication to those who depend upon our care is steadfast. Volunteers of America has provided care for 125 years and continues to be an integral part of our community response in crisis.

As we face this challenge together, we will be stronger, it will pass, and we will succeed.

Thank you for your leadership, friendship and partnership as we navigate the days to come. We will keep you in our prayers for good physical and mental health. Please be safe and follow the protocols that will keep us all safe. Please call on us if you or a loved one needs our help.

With sincere gratitude on behalf of those we serve and our dedicated caregivers,



Pamela D. Richardson, MBA, CFRE
President/CEO

Some of you have asked how you can help? Help us grow our emergency fund to purchase PPE materials for staff and clients that require daily contact. **Donate at www.voak.org/donate.**