



The Salem Pantry Public Health Update (April 8)

The Salem Pantry's top priority right now continues to be the safety and health of our clients and volunteers. We are working closely with the Salem Board of Public Health and following the evolving CDC updates regarding COVID-19.

Salem Pantry will continue to clean and disinfect surfaces throughout each program day, for both our *Fresh Harvest Pop-Up Mobile Markets* and our *Emergency Grocery Assistance Program*. Our staff and volunteers will follow social distancing measures, wear gloves and a facial covering. We ask all clients and volunteers to change gloves regularly and disinfect hands frequently. You can find additional preventative measures at the CDC Website at www.cdc.gov.

We request that any client or volunteer that is feeling ill or has been exposed to COVID-19 to stay home and not visit any Salem Pantry distribution site. All visitors to the distribution sites will be supported to maintain social distancing while in line to receive food from our volunteers and staff.

If you are in need of food and unable to attend one of our distribution sites due to COVID-19, please contact The Salem Pantry and we will do our best to accommodate you with a grocery delivery to your household.

The Salem Pantry staff will continue to monitor the public health crisis so that we can communicate effectively with all of our affected clients and volunteers. We will provide any new public health statements or program updates through our website (www.TheSalemPantry.org) and Salem Pantry social media pages. Additionally, we are working with the Mayor's office and the Salem Together effort to keep the Salem community informed. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to us.

In recent weeks, as many Salem community members face the loss of work, concern over where they might acquire food for their children and an overall sense of economic upheaval and anxiety, we have seen a substantial rise in the need for food access since the onset of the COVID-19 crisis. The Salem Pantry is committed to meeting our community need for food during this difficult time.

Sincerely,

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