

MID-YEAR PROGRAM UPDATE REPORT TO KIDS PROGRESS INC. BOARD



Jenny Scanlin, President

Request: Review activities and program efforts to date and provide guidance on approach to balance of the fiscal year's priorities and goals.

Purpose: To share with the Kids Progress, Inc. Board an update on our successes to date and global impacts that have influenced shifts and approaches to our work in FY2020.

Issues:Accomplishments to Date

In 2020, KPI has moved beyond business as usual and has been providing intensive assistance to residents throughout the Housing Authority's portfolio to ensure the health and safety of our residents and meet their immediate resource needs (See Attachment, Donation Overview sent to all KPI COVID-19 donors). This included spending much of our time addressing food insecurity with donations of water, groceries, hot meals, and produce from local farmer's markets. Funding from the City of Los Angeles and foundations like the California Community Foundation and Cedar Sinai allowed us to deliver hot, nutritious meals to seniors and disabled households at almost every public housing site for twelve weeks, amounting to over 77,000 meals for over 1,800 individual households.

KPI also received assistance from United Way in the first wave of COVID-19 Stay at Home orders through the provision of 3,500 face masks and no-touch thermometers which were distributed to service locations on public sites where residents were still interacting with staff, like the Grab and Go locations where children's meals are being distributed as well as HACLA's computer labs and Work Source Center.

Our strong partnership with Baby-To-Baby has been essential in meeting basic needs across the board. To date, 48,000 diapers, 5,120 packages of baby formula and fruit puree packets, and 360 wipes/cleaning supplies have been provided to residents of public housing spanning our entire portfolio. These donations were sorted and delivered by a host of staff and volunteers.

KPI's dedication to digital literacy has been an important cornerstone of our work during COVID-19, as we help our youth get through the transition to online learning. KPI reached out to LAUSD, EveryoneOn, and all our digital literacy and connectivity partners to help households get connected. To date, KPI has distributed 2,500 head sets and 551 new Chromebook laptops that come with a one-year warranty and one year of tech support from Human IT. This donation is

courtesy of the generous sponsorships of Starry, Crown Castle and Visionary Women.

Operational Activity

KPI is holding its 8th Annual Scholarship ceremony sponsored by the University of Southern California's School of Social Work and Price School of Public Policy. Twenty-nine (29) graduating high school seniors who were residents of Section 9 housing in the City of Los Angeles received academic scholarships. Recipients received a total \$36,000 in scholarships provided through the generosity of the Price Philanthropies Foundation, the County of Los Angeles Probation Housing Based Day Supervision (HBDS) Program, and various other partners who provided scholarship funds through HACLA's Section 3 local hire program.

KPI still participates in HUD's Connect Home Collaborative and is working on outreach to residents and providers to ensure that internet connectivity is available and reliable at our housing sites as most of our students are going to be continuing their online learning through summer and into the fall.

Our revised Articles of Incorporation and name change to "Build Hope, Inc." request are with the Secretary of State and we expect to have full approval in the next few months and will begin to embark on a log rebrand and website redesign with ZHarrison & Associates, dba Zeldesign. Zeldesign clearly understands the Los Angeles market especially as relates to engagement of hard to reach audiences and we expect they will be able to meet the desired visual direction and goals we have discussed with the Board early this year.

Looking Forward

KPI will continue to apply for grants and donation opportunities to address the resource needs of residents as we continue forward into many more months ahead with the expectation of little let up from COVID-19 on the economy and our families' health.

Additionally, we will spend some of the fall getting back to our focused work program, including building our scholarship fund, educational supports and building our Board of Directors and mission-based brand.

Funding: No funding is required for this action.

Attachments:

1. COVID-19 Donation Overview

YOUR DONATION MADE A *Difference*

SUMMARY

- On March 19, 2020 California Gov. Gavin Newsom issued a stay-at-home order due to the public health threat of the novel coronavirus.
- The epidemic and its consequences have created significant challenges for HACLA's tenants, as workplaces have shut down, unemployment has surged, schools and daycares have closed, and food insecurity has increased.
- HACLA's partners, which include city government offices, faith-based organizations, nonprofits, foundations, private businesses, and philanthropic individuals, have stepped in to help protect our tenants during these uncertain times.



BY THE NUMBERS

Across **14** of HACLA's public housing sites with **19,040** residents:

- **370** of our most vulnerable households have received some form of financial assistance.
- **231** households have received rental assistance via external donations.
- **30,000** masks are being distributed to all tenants living at our sites to help prevent the spread of the virus.
- **14,263** households received support with groceries, in the form of packaged goods, fresh farm produce, bagged deliveries, and gift cards.
- **8,295** households have received weekly deliveries of prepared meals, with a focus on our children, senior citizens, and disabled communities.
- **5,406** households received items such as toilet paper, diapers, baby wipes, and cleaning supplies.
- **2,509** households with school-aged children have received computers, headphones, and tablets.
- **975** households have received art supplies, books, paper, and other items, to keep children actively learning.
- **ALL** public housing residents have access to free COVID-19 testing, thanks to our partnership with the LA Fire Department.

