

Lohrum, Kitty

From: Lohrum, Kitty
Sent: Wednesday, May 6, 2020 12:57 PM
To: Lohrum, Kitty
Subject: Serving the poor in this crisis

From: "St. Vincent de Paul of Alameda County" <development@svdp-alameda.org>
Date: 5/6/20 8:01 AM (GMT-06:00)
To: David Barringer <dbarringer@svdpusa.org>
Subject: Serving the poor in this crisis



An update from us on COVID-19

May 6, 2020

Dear David,

“I haven’t seen anything like this in all my days” – Patricia, SVdP Shelter Guest.

The unhoused homeless population we serve in our emergency shelter and dining room is perhaps the most vulnerable group in the Bay Area, at high risk to become seriously ill or to die from this virus. We’re very concerned that many of the people we’ve been getting to know through our ministries may not be with us in a few months.

People who sleep in tent encampments, outdoors, or in our shelter are older on average and have far more chronic and often untreated health conditions than the

general population. Their nutrition (our SVdP meals being the exception) is poor, their stress levels are high, their sleep is poor, and they often struggle with substance abuse and mental health that makes infection prevention more difficult.

They spend much of their time outside in the elements, in queues to receive services, or in congregate settings among other high-risk people. They don't have easy access to bathrooms or even sinks, especially now that so many local cafes, libraries, and restaurants are closed. They share things to help each other, from food and utensils to cigarettes and phones. They don't have easy access to medical care and treatment.

Your gift supports our shared work to feed and house these men and women with nowhere to "shelter in place." They count on us and you to meet their basic needs. Please give as generously as you are able.

Best wishes,



Blase Bova
Executive Director



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