Daily Meals Must Go On

Due to unforeseen circumstances, LifeNet temporarily suspended services during the last two weeks of July 2020, but food continued! Chef Sheldon, our beloved former chef, graciously offered to whip up delicious grab-and-go meals for our clients until we got back to normal operations.

New Families First Initiative

Did you hear about our new initiative to provide a family dinner for food-insecure families in our community? As our food pantry operation continues to grow weekly during this pandemic, many new faces find themselves underemployed, unemployed, or without enough to eat. This new initiative was designed to help struggling families as they try to make ends meet.

We invite pantry clients to pickup a complete takeaway dinner served family-style on a weekly basis. To make it happen, it is all hands on deck, from food preparation through packaging and distribution with Guest Chef Sheldon, Dr. Geddes, and the LifeNet family.

Preventive Measures

When City of Fort Lauderdale Commissioner Ben Sorenson connected us with the South Florida Area Manager at Cliff Berry, Inc (CBI), they immediately agreed to assist with a Proactive Disinfection of all our facilities — including administrative offices, pantry, warehouse and dining room. A most sincere appreciation to Commissioner Sorenson and Mr. Cliff Berry, long-standing supporters of LifeNet4Families, and to the amazing CBI professionals that made this preventive measure a success.

We have received an overwhelmingly positive response to this new endeavor, here is one of the many responses:

"With unemployment running out ... I was not in a place mentally to even figure out dinner. I was apprehensive at first but was very impressed by the presentation. It wasn't something I felt I needed to hide, it looked like a catering service. It was really well prepared and it was perfect!"
The LifeNet team is hard at work ensuring nutritious food boxes are assembled and delivered to those hard at work, including the many USPS workers that continue to provide essential services to our community. The Essentials 4 Essentials Program provides food boxes to essential workers that may go unnoticed and perhaps have been unable to attend food-giveaways because they occur while at work. Thanks for your service and your support year-round!

Deliveries by Doordash

Thanks to LifeNet Board Member, Will Spencer, we have a partnership with Doordash to deliver food to homebound seniors and disabled clients.

Happy to preserve this important service during the pandemic, with transportation and food growing scarce for many of our elderly and disabled clients.

Amping Fundraising Efforts

Between mid-June and early-July 2020, the Broward Team at FPL and NextEra Energy raised $6,835.70 for LifeNet!

Thanks to Juliet Roulhac, Tim Hogans, Melanie Roger, the Broward Team, and the Corporate and Diversity and Inclusion Teams that matched donations. Collectively, their efforts facilitated a nutritious food box for 76 families through end of year!

Thank you for choosing LifeNet as the charity of choice for Broward County this year and for making such an impact in our community.

Community Thank You's

The Kiwanis Club of Lauderdale Lakes donated funds to sponsor a phenomenal client meal. Our chef prepared a scrumptious menu consisting of Shrimp Scampi, Honey Glazed Salmon, Lemon Garlic Chicken, Southwestern Rice and Black Beans a la Cubana. They also provided snack packs and hygiene bags (including masks and hand sanitizers). We are grateful for their generous donation.

After serving meals to 278 clients, our team was surprised by Synergy Insurance Group and MetLife Property & Casualty, who co-sponsored lunch for our entire team! Special thanks to Andy Pappas, President, Synergy Insurance Group, for thinking of us. This is so much easier with the support of our partners, our friends.

The Rotary Club of Weston granted LifeNet $4,000 to purchase a new convection oven for our community kitchen! We are beyond excited about the addition as we continue to expand our food program offerings in the community. Thank you for such a generous donation. We look forward to helping many more families experiencing hardship at this time.
Raising Our Voices

As a community provider operating in the epicenter of poverty, it is important to recognize the impact of certain conditions on our very own clients; and advocate for the vulnerable and voiceless population we serve.

In the weeks and months to come, we will explore how different topics impact our clients, how we are helping clients get through it, and help to shine a light on areas of great importance to the people we serve under a social media platform titled Raising Our Voices.

While initial conversations will revolve around systemic racism, social injustice, and inequality, this platform will allow us to raise awareness about a variety of issues.

Here are some of the conversations already taking place:

Thank you for a remarkable forum and for letting us partake in it. It is important to keep the conversation and action going, and we are humbled to be part of this movement.

We continue to work with our community leadership to elevate these important topics. Our President and CEO, Dr. Melanie Geddes, participated in a “Viewpoints on Racism Panel” hosted by Temple Beth Orr with City of Tamarac Mayor Michelle J. Gomez, Ret. Broward County Chief Judge Peter M. Weinstein, Deputy David Farrugia from the Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office, and Sergeant A.J. King from the Coral Springs Police Department.

Happy Anniversary!

Two of our very own, Paul Prince and Malcolm Brown, are celebrating their two-year anniversary with LifeNet! Paul is a Pantry/Warehouse Assistant who is dedicated, dependable, hard worker with a jovial disposition, and always ready to lend a hand. Malcolm started as an Administrative Assistant and promoted to a Client Services position given his ability to connect with clients in a caring, helpful, and cheerful manner. We salute you and wish you many more anniversaries with our LifeNet Family. You are invaluable!