

**To: Culpeper County Residents**

**Re: Emergency Assistance Response Beginning March 18, 2020**

**Date: March 17, 2020**

**From: Culpeper Human Services, Culpeper Food Closet, Rappahannock-Rapidan Community Services/Area Agency on Aging, Empowering Culpeper, and Blue Ridge Area Food Bank.**

**SNAP APPLICATION:** An application may be obtained at our office, Culpeper Human Services located at 1835 Industry Drive, Culpeper, Virginia, or on-line at [www.CommonHelp.gov](http://www.CommonHelp.gov) or we will mail one to you the same day you request it. You may return the application to the agency either in person, through authorized representative, facsimile, mail, or by completing an on-line electronic application. An application may also be filed through the DSS Call Center at (855)635-4370. We encourage anyone in need of supplemental food assistance to submit an application for evaluation of eligibility. If in the event our office closes to the public, please submit your application on-line.

**CENTRAL OPERATIONS CENTER:** Beginning Wednesday, March 18, 2020, Culpeper Human Services will open a central operations center and be the central point of contact for those needing emergency assistance in the County of Culpeper. You must be a Culpeper resident to participate. The contact number will be the same as the First Call for Help phone at **(540) 229-3816**. During the next two weeks, please call this number if you need food or other assistance. The phone will be answered during the workweek from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. We have every intention of answering the calls personally, however, if you are directed to voicemail, please leave a detailed message. We ask that you leave your name, a good working phone number with voicemail, and the purpose of the call. We will respond to the calls in the order received. We would ask that if you do not hear back from someone by 5:00 p.m. of the day of your call, please call back the next day. This means call volume is high. We will do our best to direct you to resources and assist you if at all possible.

The central operations center will also take calls at **540-727-0372, extension 443** for anyone in the community wishing to help or to volunteer so that we have a central registry of volunteers in the event we need to have people assist with food distribution/delivery. If you belong to a group wishing to assist, please have one person call to register as a group. Please note that volunteers may be subject to screening protocols.

We are asking that anyone wishing to make a donation for food to those in need, to please donate to the Culpeper Food Closet, located at St. Stephens Episcopal Church. If you wish to make a monetary donation, please make your check payable to Culpeper Food Closet and mail to P. O. Box 343, Culpeper, Virginia. If you wish to donate money for personal hygiene items, diapers, wipes, toilet paper, and other items or for homeless assistance please send your check payable to Culpeper Human Services and in the memo note First Call for Help Virus response at P. O. Box 1355 Culpeper, Virginia 22701.

If necessary, an additional food drop off site may be announced at a later date.

**SENIOR MEALS:** With the temporary closing of the Rappahannock-Rapidan Community Services Culpeper Senior Center, due to coronavirus concerns, we want to ensure that all Seniors in our community continue to receive meals on a weekly basis.

Current Home Delivered Meal recipients will not be having any changes to their deliveries. These changes will only apply to individuals who were previously receiving meals at our Culpeper Senior Center.

We will be delivering meals on Thursdays beginning March 19th. This delivery will be equivalent to five meals.

RRCS Transportation staff will bring meals to the Culpeper Senior Center for members who would like to pick them up at the Senior Center at 9:15 am on Thursday. They will then proceed with deliveries to the members' home who do not wish or are unable to pick up their meals. While we cannot assure individual times of deliveries, we are asking members to remain home until delivery as there are frozen/refrigerated items included.

We will also include a small flyer for each recipient to let us know by Friday whether they would like to cancel their meals for the following week. We will continue to deliver meals weekly unless recipients call either 540-825-5778 or 540-825-3100, ext. 3358 or email [walker@rrcsb.org](mailto:walker@rrcsb.org) to cancel.

If additional Seniors in our community would like to request meals, they may do so by emailing or calling one of the numbers listed.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** If you are having an emergency please call 911 or you are feeling sick, please contact your physician. To report child abuse or neglect please call 540-825-9073 for Culpeper Human Services Intake during regular business hours. Or you may call the State Child Abuse Hotline at (800) 552-7096 anytime. To report suspected adult abuse, neglect, or exploitation, call 540-825-9073 during regular business hours or the 24-hour, toll-free APS hotline at (888) 832-3858.

**FINAL NOTE:** These arrangements are subject to change as circumstances are moving rapidly with the progression of the spread of the virus. Please be patient as we work through problems that may occur that are beyond our control. For more information about Covid-19, please follow the Centers for Disease Control at <https://www.cdc.gov/>