April 1, 2020

To the Cheshire Community,

Many of our residents continue to reach out seeking opportunities to help and volunteer as our community responds to this ongoing public health crisis. As a Human Services Department we continue to be inspired by the kindness, generosity, and selflessness of the residents of this community.

That being said, it is of the utmost priority that we keep Cheshire residents healthy and safe and respect the advice of our public health experts and do what we can encourage social distancing and self-isolating to reduce the spread of the COVID-19. So many of you have asked if you can shop for the elderly, disabled or ill and make deliveries. Although this may seem like a logical need, at this time, given the unique nature of this crisis, an effort like this could raise the level of risk of exposure for you and for those who are most vulnerable. We urge you if you are concerned for a friend, neighbor, or family member please contact Cheshire Human Services at (203)271-6690 so that we can connect this person or persons with assistance. We have a system in place to get people groceries and other supplies through the Human Services Department as long as we are aware of the need.

We continue to maintain a list of those who have contacted us wishing to volunteer in some way and many of those people were able to find opportunities to help in some way with the Cheshire Community Food Pantry. In addition, The Cheshire Food Drive is working diligently to expand our Food Voucher Program in anticipation of the increase in the food insecure population in our community as the unemployment rate rises. If you would like to contribute to that effort visit cheshirefooddrive.org for ways that you can that help.

There will be upcoming opportunities through a partnership with Cheshire Lights of Hope for people to serve as virtual contacts in their neighborhoods as we work to develop a community network to ensure that information regarding resources and access to help is available to all of our residents. Information will be released regarding this effort over the next few days.

To reach the Human Services Department call 203-271-6690. If you are unable to reach us please leave a detailed voicemail and we will return your call as soon as possible.

We are so grateful to work in such a compassionate community. Please stay safe.

Michelle Piccerillo, Director
Cheshire Human Services