

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the health and well-being of so many of our brothers and sisters here at home as well as around the world. There is great concern about the economic and emotional impact that will stay with us for many months to come. While restrictions and stay at home orders were necessary to stop the spread of this virus, many of our neighbors are now facing financial burdens and are struggling to put food on the table. We saw workers at the shelters and recovery centers without the necessary personal protection gear to ensure their safety. Even our doctors and nurses were facing shortages of essential personal protection equipment as they cared for the sick.

While social distancing limited our outreach on facilities projects and delayed some of our international mission initiatives, it **did not** prevent us from reaching out to help those in need. With the help of our amazing donors and volunteers, Three Grains of Rice Missions was able to distribute thousands of dollars' worth of food to individuals and organizations that were struggling. We were also able to provide personal protective equipment to frontline workers at area health organizations and facilities that care for our most vulnerable population such as:

- ♥ City Rescue Mission
- ♥ Trinity Rescue Mission
- ♥ Sulzbacher Center
- ♥ Salvation Army
- ♥ Hogar Crea Recovery Center
- ♥ St. Johns Homeless Coalition
- ♥ St. Vincent's Hospital
- ♥ UF Health
- ♥ Volunteers for Medicine
- ♥ Beaches Family Health
- ♥ Community Hospice
- ♥ Pediatric nurses at local practices
- ♥ Trinity Baptist College
- ♥ Elmhurst and Presbyterian Hospitals in Queens, New York

We also want to thank all of you for your clean-up efforts at home that resulted in sizeable donations of clothing, kitchen items, household goods and furniture! We were able to quickly turn around these donations and distribute to shelters, churches, and individuals in need.

We are hopeful that we can resume our outreach efforts by the end of June. While we are anxious to get back out there doing what we love, we are committed to keeping everyone safe. As we plan new projects and resume our recurring outreach activities, we will follow the guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) as well as state and local authorities and take the following precautions: [1] maintain social distancing; [2] provide protective gear (masks, gloves and hand sanitizer); [3] ensure project and activity environments are properly cleaned and sanitized; and [4] monitor the health of Three Grains of Rice Missions, volunteers and individuals attending any activity or project. We will update the website's Get Involved page as we confirm facilities projects and community outreach activities. We invite you to check back often and sign up to join us in the mission field.

Blessings,

Ed and Stacey Perez