



LFCC COVID-19 Response

6/22/2020

The mission of Loaves and Fishes of Contra Costa is to provide community-based food programs and partner services that focus on basic needs. We nourish lives! Loaves and Fishes is on the front lines in Contra Costa County serving people who are in need of food. As an “essential provider,” Loaves and Fishes has remained open and is serving meals to the community. The reality is, Loaves and Fishes provides food to the most vulnerable in our community; without our services many will not be able to feed themselves or their families. Loaves and Fishes is committed to the health and safety of all of our guests, staff, volunteers and partner agencies.

As of Monday, March 16, all four dining rooms are serving meals in "to-go" containers out the front door and filling grocery bags with food from the food pantries. We are serving approximately 3200-3500 meals a week in this manner. This is a 50 to 60% increase from what we were serving before COVID-19 entered our community. We also opened a fifth dining room in Walnut Creek made possible by partnering with The Trinity Center and started two weekend meal programs, both of these responses are expanding our hot meal service for those in need.

By remaining open and serving under these challenges, we are incurring unexpected costs related to the “to-go” containers and food that can be served in this manner. Additionally, with the cancellation of 2 major fund-raising events scheduled for April and June of 2020, we are projecting a deficit of \$95,000.

No one knows how COVID-19 will affect everyone going forward. What we do anticipate is that more people will be in need of our services than before this pandemic. No one should go hungry during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Please consider helping Loaves and Fishes during this critical time. Our mission relies on the community to come together and be socially engaged, even as we are instructed to not “socially gather.”

Thank you for your support,

Joleen Lafayette
Executive Director
Loaves and Fishes of Contra Costa