



# Rising Hope United Methodist Mission Church

*A Partner in Mission with the Alexandria District*

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*The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'* (Matthew 25:40)

## Urgent Help Needed

Dear Rising Hope Supporters –

It is said that a crisis can help us see that we are all God's people. There are no lines of division among us; humanity rises to the top and heroes emerge from all around. Rising Hope needs you now more than ever.

As the uncertainty around COVID-19 continues, the demand for our services continues to increase. For the homeless and vulnerable families and individuals we serve the crisis hits hard. They are the first to lose their jobs, the most exposed to crowds, and are vulnerable due to underlying chronic health conditions. Some already lost their jobs; others will soon. The homeless population is expected to increase in the coming months because of the economic fallout from this crisis, with potentially more families and neighbors needing our services and the hope that comes from a deep faith.

Your assistance is critically needed. Our food pantry normally receives food donations from retail stores, area food banks, and organizational food drives. These donations have dramatically declined, and some grocers are suspending their donations. We must find new sources of food for our soup kitchen and pantry at a much greater cost. Before long, we may not be able to feed the most vulnerable among us.

We have had to cancel two major fundraising events, including our Spring Gala. Operating funds are needed to keep our doors open. Hundreds of families in our community depend upon our food pantry. We need your support now. Donations of food will help feed many. Financial donations will help us cover the increased cost of acquiring food, supplies, and maintaining staff.

Please consider helping with some of our greatest needs.

- Food pantry donations (dried beans, canned food, other non-perishables)
- Paper bags to pre-bag groceries, masks, gloves, and food takeaway containers
- Monetary donations. (Financial donations provide the most flexibility to meet increasing demands and pay bills)

This is the time for us to all come together and help our neighbor. Any help you can provide is so appreciated and much needed. Please return your donation in the envelope provided or visit [risinghopeumc.org/donate](http://risinghopeumc.org/donate).

Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Keary Kincannon".

Keary Kincannon