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## **PROGRAM UPDATES:**

### **Women's Hearth**

Still closed for services due to the extended "Stay Home, Stay Healthy" order. Open date TBD. Location signs have been updated. Hearth staff are supporting the 24/7 Hope House shelter at the downtown library.

### **EduCare**

Coordinating with Licensor to be able to provide twelve hours of respite care for children a week to give the mothers some personal time to de-stress. The altered temporary program model will take into account staff shortages, Department of Health guidelines for childcare centers, and childcare for vulnerable children being deemed essential.

### **Home Yard Cottages (HYC)**

Will be full again after move-ins this week. Families are doing well even through the challenges. We have been having an adjusted food bank weekly that allow residents to get much needed food, and keep up social distancing. We have staff on site daily M-F for limited hours to access supplies like TP, diapers, cleaning supplies, etc. Case managers are reaching out through the TextNow app.

### **Transitional Living Center (TLC)**

Working with EduCare to provide some respite for the moms and kiddos. Families are still moving in as needed. We have been doing an adjusted food bank weekly, much like HYC. Residents are often reaching out to our Family Support Advocate to support them during this time.

### **Miryam's House**

Has at this time suspended new move-ins until we can do so safely. Staff is working on a 14-day quarantine protocol to keep the house healthy. New Leaf Kitchen has started making dinners for the women to minimize the number of people in the kitchen and working with the food. This has been very challenging time for our alums and residents. Case Managers have been reaching out using the TextNow App.

### **New Leaf Kitchen & Café**

Café remains closed. Kitchen is operational for limited orders and staff, and is looking for a way to partner with the community to help feed vulnerable populations.

Update: 12:30pm, 4/6/2020

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Due to the risk associated with women traveling around town for different services, the city and homeless service organizations are working together to minimize this type of movement.

To support that goal, Women's Hearth closed on Thursday, 3/26, and will remain closed until at least Wednesday, April 8th. We have posted on our door relevant COVID-19 information and resources, and will keep our voicemail message and notices on our door updated as best we can.

Women's Hearth will be supporting other shelter projects behind the scenes, be it supplies, staffing, or other needs. We will still be assisting our community's most vulnerable, but it will look different for the time being.

Update: 9:00am, 3/30/2020

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Transitions is complying with Governor Inslee's request to "stay home, stay safe." This is a constantly changing environment but as of now, this is how we are addressing the state's expectations:

EduCare will be closing after today, 3/24/2020. Likely for two weeks.

New Leaf Kitchen is closing temporarily.

Women's Hearth is working to still provide essentials and showers to women who may be camping, etc.

Housing Services continue with staff support in a limited capacity, but each site has nearly daily staff presence.

Please know we are working hard to provide support to our participants while still being safe as a staff. Thank you for your support.

Update 11:45am, 3/24/2020

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New Leaf Cafe is closed until further notice.

In response to COVID-19 precautions, such as social distancing, sanitation protocols, and maintaining safe and efficient staffing levels, the Women's Hearth program's hours of operation are subject to change daily.

For the next two weeks (March 21<sup>st</sup> through April 3<sup>rd</sup>) we plan to be open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8:30 to 4:00 and on Wednesdays from 10:30 to 4:00.

We are offering essential services only and have cancelled all support and activity groups until further notice.

We will do our best to keep current notices posted on our front door with our hours of operation as well as on our voice mail message.

Folks may call 455-4249 if they have questions or need further details about what services are currently available.

Updated: 2:30pm, 3/20/2020

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In order to protect our participants and guests (many of whom are in the COVID-19 at-risk age range of 60+ or have underlying health conditions), Transitions is postponing the March 24<sup>th</sup> Women's Hearth Spring Fling until further notice.

Additionally, Women's Hearth is moving to essential services only and canceling or postponing the group activities that draw participants who have housing options. Most of these groups draw women who are housed and the majority are considered at-risk according to CDC guidelines. For the time being, Responsible Renter classes will be held with additional social distancing precautions in place.

We're also postponing the Volunteer Appreciation event on 4/4 and all walking tours until May. At that time, if all is well, we will reschedule. We're asking ALL volunteers at Transitions' Programs to temporarily suspend coming into their sites. We don't know for how long yet, but we'll keep you updated along the way. We want to protect the safety of as many as possible and we feel that this is a smart way to do so.

We appreciate your patience and thoughtfulness during this strange time. Please stay safe and take the necessary precautions for your families, and hopefully our community will come through quickly and safely.

We hope that through prevention measures such as these, we will be able to return to "business as usual" by May. If you would still like to donate needed items or monetarily, please feel free to do so. Contact Sarah at 509/328-6702 or [slickfold@help4women.org](mailto:slickfold@help4women.org) with any questions.

Updated: 11:30am, 3/16/2020

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