

# City of South Bend

August–September 2020



## Hello Neighbor,

I hope you and your family are well. My letters over the past few months have included my continued emphasis on the importance of staying vigilant against the COVID-19 threat. As case numbers have increased in recent weeks, I'll repeat my encouragement that you avoid close contact with others, especially indoors, and continue to follow guidelines from our health officials including social distancing, hand washing, and wearing a mask.

The economic impact of the virus continues to send shockwaves through our nation and community. Recently, the City awarded grants to help fund a pair of rental assistance programs managed by local nonprofits.

If you're behind on rent as a result of lost income from the pandemic or facing eviction, I encourage you to apply for rental assistance with St. Vincent De Paul of St. Joseph County by visiting [www.svdpsb.org](http://www.svdpsb.org) or apply with REAL Services, Inc. by calling 574-284-2060 or [rentalassist@realservices.org](mailto:rentalassist@realservices.org). To find out more about available resources to help pay rent or utilities, please visit [www.southbendin.gov/rent](http://www.southbendin.gov/rent).

As you've likely heard, masks are required when indoors at public places throughout the state, as well as when people are within 6 feet of each other outdoors. This order is a necessary step for us, however inconvenient, to continue to get a handle on this virus.

Please continue to wear a mask, and make sure to wear it appropriately by covering both your nose and mouth. This inconvenience can help us get a handle on this virus, so we can get out economy back on track and kids back in school safely.

The City continues to make important progress on public safety reform. Recently, we received the results of a review of South Bend Police Department policies by the consulting firm 21CP, and we also implemented a new discipline matrix that lays out consistent discipline for misconduct. We're working to implement these reforms to make South Bend a leader in 21st century policing and to support to our officers, who work hard every day to keep our community safe.

In the coming weeks, we'll have more to announce, and we look forward to including you in the process and receiving your input.

You can still access many city services remotely by calling 311 or visiting [www.southbendin.gov/covid19cityservices](http://www.southbendin.gov/covid19cityservices).

Thank you again for your efforts to keep our community safe and healthy during these difficult times.

Sincerely,

Mayor Mueller

## Clerk's Corner

Greetings, South Bend!

Due to the new norm of social distancing and self-isolation, businesses of all sizes have been hit hard. The blow has been even more difficult for small operations that rely on in-person transactions.

A recent survey found that 87 percent of small business owners are struggling due to the coronavirus. Businesses in South Bend have been battling to stay open since the middle of March. Unfortunately, many small businesses were forced to lay off more than half of their employees, due to lack of funding. Nonetheless, the City of South Bend wants to ensure all businesses big and small remain open.

Also, to assist renters, Indiana COVID-19 Rental Assistance Program Applications will be accepted online at [www.indianahousingnow.org](http://www.indianahousingnow.org)

If eligible, the program will provide up to \$500 in assistance for four months, totaling a maximum of \$2,000 to help cover past and ongoing rent payments or late fees.

Payments will be made directly to landlords and the landlord must agree to participate. Any renter facing financial hardship and unable to make their rent payment should speak to their property manager right away.

Best,

Dawn M. Jones  
City Clerk

## COVID-19 RESOURCES & SUPPORT

### At-Home Activities & Education

#### South Bend Venues Parks & Arts

Hosting a Virtual Experience on Facebook Every weekday at 12pm. Check it out!

#### St. Joseph County Public Library

574-282-4646 | [sjcpl.org](http://sjcpl.org) | [library@sjcpl.org](mailto:library@sjcpl.org)  
The St. Joseph County Public Library is here to help. All library branches are now open for browsing, with precautions in place to keep patrons safe. Curbside Pick-Up and document delivery continues at all locations. If you do not have a library card, sign up for a

digital SJCP card by calling 574-282-4646. Free WiFi is available to the public at all SJCP branch parking lots (except Main Library and Keller Park Branch).

### Community Health Support

If you are suffering from symptoms of COVID-19, which include fever, cough, and shortness of breath, please contact your primary care provider.

**Beacon Health System Hotline:** 855-523-2225

**Saint Joseph Health System:** 574-335-8650

**South Bend Clinic:** 574-307-6870

If you do not have a primary care provider, call the

central 211 hotline to be connected with a provider.

### Health safety tips:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick

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### Food Support

#### Grab and Go Meals for SBSCS Students

Food pick up available at rotating sites throughout the school district from 11am–1pm every week day. Find out each location by visiting [sb.school](http://sb.school)

#### Catholic Charities Food Pantry

1817 Miami Street | 574-234-3111  
Pick up every Wednesday, 10am-12pm and 5-7pm

#### Food Bank of Northern Indiana

702 Chapin St.  
Drive-through distribution Mon & Fri, 9am-2pm and Wed, 11am-5pm

#### Purple Porch Co-op At Risk Shopping

123 N Hill St.  
Wed, 8am-10am, only customers over 65 years

#### Kroc Center Food Boxes

900 W Western Ave | 574-233-9471 x 2206  
Pick up Monday and Wednesdays 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

#### La Casa de Amistad

746 Meade St. | [lacasadeamistad.org](http://lacasadeamistad.org)  
Pick up on Wednesdays from 2pm–4:45pm

#### St. Vincent de Paul Food Boxes

[svdpsb.org](http://svdpsb.org) | 520 Crescent Ave  
Drive Through every Tuesday & Thursday from 10am-12pm. Must bring a picture ID.

#### Youth Services Bureau

574-235-5517 | 1330 Lincoln Way E  
To-go lunches and hygiene supplies. Drop-in Center  
Hours 12pm-6pm, Mon–Sat

#### St. Margaret's House

117 N Lafayette  
Pick up Mon through Fri from 12pm-1:30pm

#### Wings Over South Bend

1124 E Angela Blvd  
Free kids meals to any child grades K-12

#### Real Services

574-256-1649 | [realservices.org](http://realservices.org)  
Call for information on Meals on Wheels services

#### Success Academy Students Under 18

3408 Ardmore Trail  
Tues & Thurs from 11am-12pm

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### Small Business & Workforce Support

#### Small Business Emergency Assistance Funding

The City is working with community development financial institutions (CDFIs) and local financial institutions to develop resources that will prioritize helping smaller, local businesses, who have not been the main target of other aid packages at the State or Federal level. Learn more at <https://southbendin.gov/initiative/emergency-assistance-funding/>

#### Local Takeout Options

Visit [www.takeoutcovid19.com](http://www.takeoutcovid19.com) to see a list of restaurants serving take-out and delivery.

#### Bartender Emergency Assistance Program

The United States Bartenders Guild is providing emergency assistance grants for bartenders who face severe hardship as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak and closure of bars and restaurants. Click here to find out more and apply.

#### Emergency Tipped and Service Worker Support Fund

One Fair Wage, a campaign to raise the minimum wage, has established a relief fund for Tipped and Service Workers. Click here to find out more.

#### Indiana Small Business Development Center

[www.SBA.gov/disaster](http://www.SBA.gov/disaster)  
Currently accepting applications for Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) assistance.

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### Donations & Volunteer Opportunities

#### United Way Response Fund | [uwsjc.org](http://uwsjc.org)

The COVID-19 Response Fund is designed to meet short term, immediate needs, of individuals and families that will be impacted by COVID-19 as well as the long term impacts that have yet to be seen.

United Way will look to a broad network of direct service organizations as well as Indiana 211 to identify critical needs and resource gaps. The fund will be designed to be flexible and get resources to organizations with minimal bureaucracy and appropriate sense of urgency. 501c3 Organizations in St. Joseph County will be eligible to apply.

#### La Casa de Amistad Volunteers

[lacasadeamistad.org](http://lacasadeamistad.org)  
Looking for adult volunteers who are local, healthy, and not part of an at-risk population. Contact Nancy Diaz at [Nancy@lacasadeamistad.org](mailto:Nancy@lacasadeamistad.org). For community volunteers, willing to help with the food pantry, contact Jurek at [jurek@lacasadeamistad.org](mailto:jurek@lacasadeamistad.org).

#### Real Services Volunteer & Donation

[realservices.org](http://realservices.org)  
Real Services is currently accepting new volunteers and donations. Volunteers must undergo a screening process to protect vulnerable clients .

#### Hope Ministries Food Donation

574-235-4150 x 222 | [asilverraven@hopesb.org](mailto:asilverraven@hopesb.org)  
Facebook: @HopeMinistriesSB  
Hope Ministries is accepting food donations and monetary donations to buy food. Donors may also contact Hope staff got a shopping list of needed items.

#### St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Joseph County

[svdpsb.org](http://svdpsb.org) | 520 Crescent Ave  
Donations of food can be made from 10am–2 pm, Tuesday through Thursday at 520 Crescent Avenue.

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### Housing & Utility Support

#### Utility shutoffs

The City of South Bend announced Immediate Suspension of Water shutoffs on Monday, March 16. American Electric Power announced suspension of all electric shutoffs on Friday, March 13. NIPSCO announced suspension of all gas shutoffs on Friday, March 13.

#### Evictions

Consumer Protection Division | 1-800-382-5516  
Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb ordered on March 19 that evictions and foreclosures may not be initiated until Indiana's State of Emergency has terminated.

Indiana Attorney General Curtis Hill has asked Hoosiers to file complaints if evictions or foreclosure proceedings occur during the COVID-19 crisis. Anyone who is unlawfully subjected to such a proceedings should contact the Attorney General's Office's Consumer Protection Division.

#### Catholic Charities Resource & Referral Program

574-234-3111 x 60  
Provides limited financial assistance to help meet basic needs including utility assistance or rental assistance as well as material assistance based upon availability. Assistance by appointment only.

#### Township Assistance

[sjcindiana.com/1615/Townships](http://sjcindiana.com/1615/Townships)  
Township Trustees provide emergency assistance to individuals and families in need who qualify. This can include payment of rent, mortgage, or utilities, as well as burial or funeral costs.