

Greater Columbia Accountable Community of Health COVID-19 Efforts

First and foremost, Greater Columbia Accountable Community of Health (GCACH) would like to thank our front-line health care workers, public health staff, and all those working behind the scenes in administration, in sanitation and in all the other necessary parts of our healthcare system to keep our communities safe. As COVID-19 (coronavirus) continues to unfold, GCACH has created several initiatives to assist partnering providers during this uncertain time. Initiatives include:

- **Resources for COVID-19 Webpage**
GCACH created a resource page for our provider and stakeholder communities to help them navigate the local, state, regional and national resources available to them due to the COVID-19 crisis. To view the list, visit www.gcach.org.
- **\$276,660 to Implement Telehealth:**
GCACH has distributed funds to 51 organizations to assist contracted providers in implementing telehealth. This includes hospitals, primary care clinics, Federally Qualified Health Centers, skilled nursing facilities, a dental clinic, behavioral health (including mental health), and community action agencies.
- **\$300,000 to Address Food Insecurity:**
GCACH donated \$300,000 to Second Harvest, the “food bank of food banks,” to address food insecurity. Second Harvest distributes food to 45 food banks in the GCACH region.
- **Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Care Packages:**
GCACH began a pilot project, which entails distributing “care packages” to its three contracted skilled nursing/long-term care facilities in the GCACH region. GCACH has joined All-In-Tri-Cities to collect donations for SNFs in Benton and Franklin counties. To donate, visit www.gcach.org!
- **GCACH Held Meeting for Experts to Share COVID-19 Updates in 9-County Region:**
GCACH hosted a Leadership Council meeting on Thursday, April 16, 2020 to discuss County responses to COVID-19. In attendance were representatives from Asotin, Benton, Columbia, Franklin, Garfield, Kittitas, Walla Walla, Whitman, and Yakima counties.
- **GCACH Participates on BHI Telehealth Rapid Response Committee**
GCACH participates on the Behavioral Health Institute Telehealth Rapid Response - Strategic Oversight Committee (SOC). This committee has the responsibility to develop recommendations and oversee the implementation of the strategic plan for telehealth services and digital health more broadly.

GCACH continues to work with its partnering providers to identify their needs during the global pandemic. For more information regarding our efforts, please visit www.gcach.org.