

**NORTH HILLS EAST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**  
**COVID-19 EMERGENCY FUNDING PLAN (1 OF 3)**

North Hills East Neighborhood Council  
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**Vendor/Non-Profit Name:** North Valley Caring Services, contact: Laura Rathbone

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Non-Profit Description: North Valley Caring Services is a nonprofit organization serving the residents in the Northeast San Fernando Valley of Los Angeles. Starting over 30 years ago as a soup kitchen, NVCS has expanded their services to adapt to the changing needs of the community. They offer a wide array of programs to enable residents to lift themselves out of poverty while encouraging them to build a vision for their community's future. What some of their programs offer are:

- Tutoring and homework. Arts and crafts, sports, gardening, and other recreational activities are available for children ages 6-18 years old.
- Provision of fresh & nonperishable foods to local community in need\*
- Provides a hot breakfast and shower facilities to local homeless individuals.
- Provides a 14-week course on "How to Start your own Business"
- Provides vehicle dwellers experiencing homelessness a safe place to park and sleep overnight.
- Every Wednesday night approximately 240 meals are prepared and delivered to homeless families in local motels and those living on the streets in the North East Valley.

Throughout the year, NVCS brings the community fun and educational events. From holiday parties and meals, to literacy events and outreach activities, NVCS provides a place for families, children and individuals to come together and celebrate as a community.

***Amount of Emergency Funds to be paid to North Valley Caring Services: \$2,429.20. Please note that NHENC does not have a NC credit card holder with an active credit card at this time. A check will need to be issued by City Clerk.***

North Hills East has a significant portion of the population that relies heavily on the services of organizations located here in the community. Many were already experiencing financial hardships prior to this COVID-19 crisis and are scared. Directing funds to organizations which have a longstanding presence and trust from community members will help keep the operations of the "go to" organizations supplied with the essential items they need to safely and effectively continue to serve the community of North Hills East.

During the COVID 19 pandemic, North Valley Caring Services (NVCS) has seen an influx in community members needing access to food security. **Before the COVID-19 pandemic their usual Friday food pantry would serve over 400 families a walk through farmers market style pantry.** They have now changed operations to adhere to social distancing practices by transforming it to a "Drive thru" pantry offered over 2 days. Every Thursday and Friday from 9am-2pm they load up cars with pre-made boxes of food donations. **It is a very heavy operation and takes many staff and volunteers to be able to serve and provide for the 1600+ families served every week! (over 800 each day).** The NVCS core group of

volunteers have increased their participation from roughly 6 hours to 20 hours/week; they have reallocated staff to support this unprecedented demand.

NVCS has also expanded their services to the **most vulnerable, by delivering meals to quarantined elderly; increasing our meal outreach to homeless families in motels to twice a week ( 900 meals delivered per week), and transitioning their Breakfast program for homeless to a "Grab & Go" format, offered Monday, Wednesday and Friday.**

**Funds will be used by North Valley Caring Services to purchase safety supplies (gloves, masks, etc.), containers for food distribution, utensils purchase of dry goods to help keep up with the increase of services and funding from the NC to purchase the following to keep up with the increase of services and demand.**

NVCS has been serving up to **1800 families with groceries** during their Thursday and Friday drive up food distribution pantry, as well as **delivering cooked meals to families living in motels 4 times a week, equalling 900 meals!** The funds will help to keep this enormous service going during this crisis.

"Social distancing" directives are being followed by allowing people to drive up to their food pantry where items are then placed into their vehicle. By providing motel families with cooked meals helps them practice the "shelter at home" order and keeps the families fed as many do not have vehicles and kitchen equipment to cook/store food.

Supplies purchased with funds used to assist with the provision of food security will be **distributed in the following ways: delivery to motel families, delivery to seniors citizens and "shut ins", drive through pick up to minimize contact with others. Food will be placed in containers for food distribution in the form of boxes, bags, and food storage containers.**

**All staff and volunteers will practice social distancing and use proper safety equipment in the form of gloves, mask, cleaning supplies.**

Please take a look at the following link to see their operations. Please note that this video was posted on March 27, before their operations went to strictly drive through and delivery.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tN-x0hhOUKw>.