



To our Benevilla community,

After much consideration, the Benevilla team will continue to take precautions as we move forward with the uncertainties of COVID-19. Our agency as a whole, supports such a sensitive population in our community including older adults, homebound seniors, adults with disabilities, young children and the families who care for them.

At Benevilla, we understand the stress that this pandemic has put on our families and we want you to know we are still here to support you. At this time, all Benevilla Life Enrichment Day Programs and Wirtzie's Preschool & Childcare will remain open for **normal business hours**. We know that the needs of caregivers do not pause as this pandemic continues, we are here for you.

With the most recent recommendations from county and state health officials regarding the COVID-19, our only goal is to protect the health and wellbeing of the community that we serve. Effective immediately we are implementing the following changes:

- **All on-site events and gatherings have been postponed.** Benevilla educational events, on-site meetings, and networking groups have been postponed or have been made available virtually.
 - Benevilla Caregiver Support Groups have been temporarily cancelled. Online options for support are currently being assessed.
 - A free 15-minute Benevilla Life Coaching session will be offered to caregivers in need. Please call 623-584-4999 if you are in need of support and guidance.
- **Life Enrichment Program and Wirtzie's volunteers are being reassigned.** Benevilla will be temporarily suspending all volunteers, including Entertainers, in the Life Enrichment Programs and Wirtzie's effective immediately. Volunteers will be offered alternative opportunities such as supporting the Home Services program.
 - **Intergenerational Program:** The Benevilla Intergenerational Program between Lucy Anne's Place and Wirtzie's Preschool & Childcare has been temporarily suspended to prevent any cross contamination.



- **Temperatures taken at the door.** All members of Life Enrichment Day Programs and children at Wirtzie's will have their temperature taken upon arrival each day. If they are showing fever symptoms, they will be asked to return home. We ask that all members and children be fever free for at least 24 hours without medication before returning to our campuses.
- **Restricting access to all non-essential visitors.** All on-site tours of members and families have been postponed for all Benevilla Life Enrichment Day Programs and Wirtzie's. Virtual tours, over the phone, and online communication are still available to those looking for more information.
- **Home Services for community members.** Our homebound seniors need us more than ever right now. Please consider volunteering with Benevilla to help with grocery shopping, assisted transportation to medical appointments, phone pals, and more. If you know a senior that needs help, Benevilla can offer these services free of charge.
- **Family Resource Center events and home-visits temporarily canceled.** Home visits will be conducted over the phone and playgroups and parenting classes may be offered virtually.

We are strongest when we stand together. We're working hard every day to still care for those in need in our community. And as our work continues, your support is more valuable and needed than ever before. Please continue to let your friends and family know about donation opportunities for your programs. Early donations for Arizona Gives Day begins Tuesday, March 17th and a generous donor is matching all donations dollar-for-dollar for the first \$5,000 donated. Donations to Benevilla can be made online at www.Benevilla.org, by phone at 623-584-4999 or by mail to: Benevilla P.O. Box 8450, Surprise, AZ 85374. Remember, you have until April 15, 2020 to make your Arizona Tax Credit donations for your 2019 taxes, or get a jump start on 2020.

Because this situation is complex and ever-changing, our plans may change too. We will continue to remain in close contact with county and state health officials regarding the COVID-19 and we will keep you updated with any developments that could impact our community. For any questions or concerns, please contact Sue Stumbough at stumbough@benevilla.org or call 623-584-4999.

Sincerely,

Joanne Thomson, Benevilla President & CEO