



Community SOLUTIONS

See your coronavirus impact!

SUMMER 2020

"Nobody is helping me, how am I going to do it?"

Thank you for answering Caterina's call for help

Caterina doesn't have much, but she works hard to give her three children the best possible life under their circumstances. Her son has a serious medical condition, so her life involves a lot of doctor appointments.

At the same time, she is diligent about her own mental health – she knows she cannot provide for her kids if she slides back into depression.

She was making it all work until she tested positive for COVID-19. Suddenly, she could not go out for groceries or even pick up her or her son's medication. People around her feared getting sick. "Nobody is helping me, how am I going to do it?" she worried.

But thanks to you, she didn't have to worry long. Your support meant there was help for her and it came right to her front door!



Thanks to you, Caterina and her kids received the groceries and medicine they desperately needed while in quarantine for COVID-19.

Your Family Crisis Fund donations provided the food, water and medicine Caterina and her children desperately needed and delivered them right to Caterina's front door.

But your support didn't stop there. Caterina's case manager contacted the local school district and arranged to pick up school lunches for the children and deliver them to Caterina.

The school immediately provided two boxes full of lunches and said to return each week so the family would have enough food to last them through the crisis.

"Gracias a ustedes por todo lo que hicieron por mi, no sabes cuanto lo agradezco," says Caterina. "Thank you for all the things you've done for me, you don't know how much I appreciate it".

The difference you made:

"Thank you for all the things your done for me, you don't know how much I appreciate it."

More stories about your generosity inside >>>

FROM THE CEO



*Erin O'Brien
President & CEO*

You gave these local families a lifeline at the most critical time

In normal times, so many of our local families live one unexpected expense or one lost paycheck away from homelessness.

It is hard to put into words just how critical your support has been in helping these families and individuals through the coronavirus crisis.

As you read their stories, I hope you will feel in your heart the difference you have made, because I feel it in mine every day.

In gratitude,

"Sorry I'm late, I was just doing my homework"

You made these beautiful words possible

Just 16 years old, Jacob struggled with depression and PTSD. He often lashed out with aggressive behaviors, such as punching a hole in his bedroom wall. He turned to substance use to ease his pain

With the onset of COVID-19, Jacob was suddenly stuck at home all day without any structure. Like many teens, he struggled with distance learning, often procrastinating and avoiding his homework. His personal hygiene deteriorated and he isolated more and more.

It could have gotten worse for Jacob but your support gave him access to critical mental health services, even during the Shelter-In-Place.

You not only helped keep our doors open, but you gave Jacob's mental health team the tools they needed to safely engage with him.

Social distancing restrictions made it hard for person-to-person connection. So Jacob's team figured out what worked best for him, which meant Jacob's "telehealth" was usually therapy by phone or Zoom while he was out roller blading!

Jacob's own comments show the impact of your support: "Sorry I'm late, I was just doing my homework. I have been sober for a week. I am going take showers every day. I am able to use my outlet of hockey to express my frustration and not get mad so easily." What a gift!



Your support ensured that Jacob and other local youth could still receive critical mental health services during the Shelter-In-Place.

Fleeing violence, they ran right into the coronavirus

Thank you for giving this family a chance to start over amid COVID-19

Ana and her sons came to the U.S. seeking asylum. They fled cartel violence in their hometown, where the children, ages 5-9, witnessed the execution of their stepfather and saw their mom threatened at gunpoint.

They had extended family in the U.S. but COVID-19 and the related job losses left their family unable to help.

Thanks to you, Ana and her boys received the daily necessities critical for their survival through this crisis. You gave them the support they needed to start a life here free of violence.

"You don't need to cry anymore Mami, because they are good and they will help us."

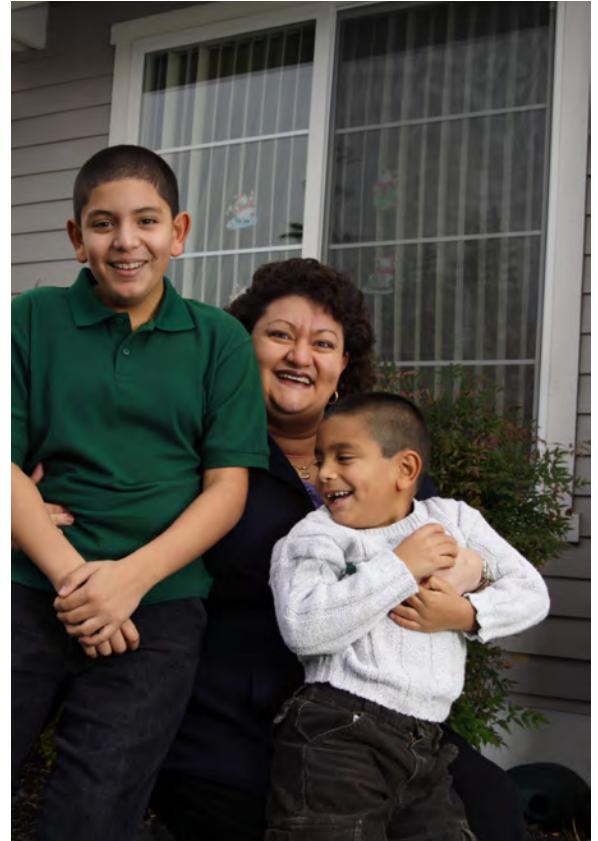
Currently working with an immigration attorney, Ana has secured the children's Social Security cards but not yet her own. She can't work while she waits, so the family was struggling.

Ana feared that if she couldn't provide for her children, she would be deported and her children placed in foster care here.

Thankfully, your support provided food and other basic supplies to ensure the family's stability through this crisis. And the boys received much-needed therapy and support to begin healing from the violence they experienced.

The family also received new and used beds,

couches, a microwave, and an electric stove. They were connected to community resources for additional assistance, including regular access to groceries.



You gave Ana and her boys the critical support they needed to survive the coronavirus and start a new life free from violence.

By helping Ana provide for her children and keep her family together, you greatly decreased her anxiety as a mom. With less stress, she is better able to focus on her children's needs and behaviors.

"I feel calmer, I don't feel so desperate," she says. "I used to cry because I was feeling so stressed. My older son will tell me, 'You don't need to cry anymore Mami, because they are good and they will help us.'"

Can you help today?

The crisis isn't over for our families! Your donation of just \$50 can help a local family survive COVID-19.

5-year-old Angel's family came to Community Solutions seeking help for her tantrums and biting, a result of early exposure to violence. They were so worried about her and dedicated to helping her heal.

Then came the coronavirus and Angel's dad lost his job. Now Angel's parents are worried about how to make ends meet. Do they buy groceries? Or pay the rent? Angel is responding to the stress in the home by acting out even more.



A local family is struggling to make ends meet right now. You can give them the groceries and basic supplies they need to get by. Will you help today?

With a small donation today, you can help Angel's family get the basic support they need to survive the coronavirus crisis and help little Angel continue to heal.

Your gift of just \$50 today can provide much-needed groceries and essential daily supplies to help a local family like Angel's through the on-going coronavirus crisis.

Yes, I want to help a local family today!

Please use my gift to provide groceries and daily essentials to help a local family through the coronavirus crisis:

- \$50 provides groceries and other essentials for one local family
- \$100 provides groceries and other essentials for two local families
- \$150 provides groceries and other essentials for three local families
- \$ _____



408-842-7138
9015 Murray Ave., Ste. 100
Gilroy, CA 95020

Names and photos in our publications are often changed to protect the confidentiality of the people you have helped.