

## Community Pantry makes changes to accommodate needs in COVID-19 times

Written by Staff Reports  
Friday, 27 March 2020 08:01

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To address the COVID-19 disaster, The Community Pantry in Gallup and Grants will be adjusting their distribution practices for the next three weeks, beginning March 16.

We'll be performing mobile distribution outside. Clients will have to stay in their vehicles. In Gallup the food distribution hours will be 9 am to 12 pm only, Tuesday through Friday. In Grants, the food distribution hours will be 9:30 am to 2:30 pm only, Tuesday through Thursday. We will not be taking community service workers from out of state and no senior volunteers at this time, due to that age group being the vulnerable population.

We are also not accepting donated plastic bags and no client updates at this time.

This temporary change will allow us to continue serving our community members without

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exposing them or the staff to the threat of the COVID-19 virus. We will also be recruiting the assistance of various members of the Gallup Lions Club who have generously volunteered to work with us through the next few weeks, along with volunteers who work with the public schools and still want to serve.

We are limiting our volunteers to what is needed on a daily basis in order to avoid a crowd. If a person has been out of state in the past 14 days, has a cough or cold of any kind, or respiratory weaknesses, we ask them to not volunteer at this time. We will be closing the public entrance into The Community Pantries until restrictions are lifted.

The Community Pantries are actively implementing and supporting relief efforts related to COVID-19. If you are healthy and able, please consider volunteering. Donations will be happily accepted, but please know that your dollar will stretch further into the communities that we serve.