



Dear Friends of the Carver Center,

At this time of heightened concern about the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), the Carver Center would like to share important updates on Carver Center's programs and services. The health and safety of our staff, clients, and community remains the top concern of the Carver Center at this time. In an abundance of caution the following programs will not be available until further notice:

- Carver After School Program (both elementary and middle school)
- Carver Teen Center
- Citizenship Classes
- Aquatics Programs
- Helping Hands, Dinner at Noon

At this time, Port Chester Schools will be closed on Monday, March 16 and Tuesday, March 17. Westcop will be closed to children.

Carver Center will open on Monday for limited food service and for the Carver Market. Our food service department remains open and will continue to provide meals to programs throughout the county who remain open.

We expect to be closed on Tuesday, March 17, subject to cleaning and/or food service to local day cares.

In times like these, we anticipate that food insecurity will be a top concern for families in our community. As such, we have taken steps to ensure that we can continue to provide food assistance in a safe and healthy way, while also meeting the growing need. The Carver Center has taken the following precautions to best serve the community:

- We have adapted Market operations to limit person-to-person contact. While we pride ourselves on being a "choice" Market and allowing clients to individually select their grocery items, we have made the decision to provide our clients with pre-packaged bags of food, beginning immediately. Clients are asked to enter Carver from one distribution point to limit staff and client exposure.
- We are asking the community to consider donating reusable grocery bags so that we may prepare and package items for families. If you would like to help purchase bags for the Carver Market, we have created an Amazon Wish List here: <https://amzn.to/2w4zrDY>

As we move forward, Carver Center has prioritized providing healthy food to the community. We are working collaboratively with our community partners to ensure that we are all able to meet what we anticipate to be a growing need.

How can you help?

Please visit www.carvercenter.org for frequent updates and www.cdc.gov for the latest information about the virus.

It is especially important that you help our efforts by becoming a part of our Facebook community: Port Chester Carver Center, so that our humble requests for necessary items can be heard across our community.

Due to staffing limitations, we are not equipped to accept donations of anything at this time that we are not formally putting out via social media.

Carver was founded in response to community challenges more than 75 years ago, and will surely weather today's community challenges, in the spirit of our Founders.

Sincerely,

Anne Bradner
Chief Executive Officer