

NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE COVID-19 NEWSLETTER

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Division of
Housing and Community Development
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

IN THIS ISSUE



Over the last 4 months, the *Neighborhood Advisory Committee (NAC)* has played a crucial role in providing services and resources for our neighbors during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In this newsletter, you will find the visuals and testimonies of NAC agencies across Philadelphia and some of the resources we have been sharing with our neighbors.

ABOUT THE NAC

Neighborhood Advisory Committee (NAC) organizations help residents connect to City programs tailored to Philadelphia residents. NACs provide information about initiatives to promote neighborhood sustainability, prevent homelessness, preserve housing, reduce energy costs, develop resident job skills, mentor youth, and engage residents.



ABOUT THE DHCD

As part of the *Department of Planning and Development*, the *Division of Housing and Community Development (DHCD)* is Philadelphia's primary contracting agency offering housing services and resources. Its core mission is to promote healthy and sustainable neighborhoods.

SUMMER 2020

WHAT HAVE THE NAC'S BEEN UP TO?

CURATED AND EDITED BY STASIA MONTEIRO (HACE) & RASHEED DAVIS (SKCP)

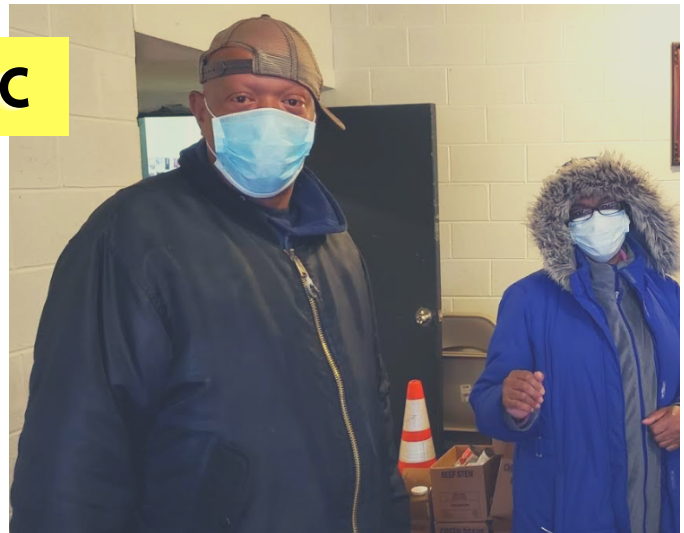
PEOPLE'S EMERGENCY CENTER



The People's Emergency Center hosted their first Census Porch Party. The event was hosted to increase understanding about the importance of the Census, educate the public on how to participate, and ensure responses from the public for a fair and accurate count. The socially distanced event was a success, sparking community energy surrounding Census participation.

NICETOWN CDC

The NTCDC/NAC conducted its volunteer-based food distribution program. Working alongside Temple Medicine students for sanitation services, they were able to provide residents with free groceries, including resource guides and masks in every bag. Their distribution numbers have increased by 75% since the pandemic has started.



DIVERSIFIED COMMUNITY SERVICES

DCS kept things old-fashioned and used the numbers they had on-file to contact residents to see what they needed. While some of the residents were connected with services they needed to be well during the pandemic, others just wanted to talk about life and interests. Conversations with current clients resulted in calls from new clients, widening their community impact greatly.

GERMANTOWN UNITED CDC

Germantown United CDC organized a virtual town hall meeting to facilitate community conversations about what residents needed the most during the pandemic. The organization was able to connect their neighbors to various services for food security, utility assistance, housing, and more. The feedback from the meeting is being used to create a Germantown resource guide.

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BREWERYTOWN-SHARSWOOD NAC

The Brewerytown-Sharswood NAC has been conducting increased food distribution in 2020 to meet growing need. Before the pandemic, they were feeding about 50-60 people per month. However, after partnering with volunteers, the organization has now been able to deliver more than 250 families per week.

ASOCIACIÓN PUERTORRIQUENOS EN MARCHA

APM Early Childhood Education staff delivered 600+ tablets to students within their NAC service area. Tablets were provided with funding from Trumark Financial Credit Union. Families also received free internet service. The Headstart staff maintained contact with 80% of their students and families with support of the tablets provided.

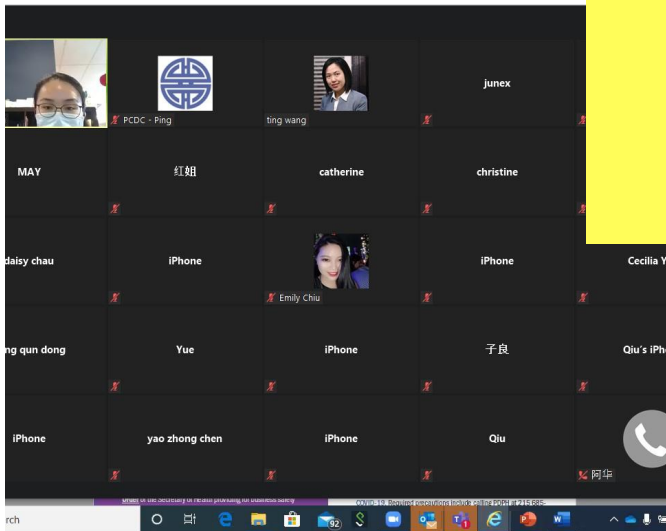


WHITMAN COUNCIL

Whitman Council has been providing direct support to residents by supporting Census participation and assisting with utility applications. They also provide households relief through collaborative food distribution efforts. Once a week, they help a neighborhood school distribute food, and twice a week they deliver food to residents.

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PHILADELPHIA CHINATOWN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

PCDC has made it their mission to connect their residents with resources with their weekly bilingual resource sharing workshops. The topics have included homeowner services, tenant resources, voter registration information, census information, and more. Over the last four months, they have conducted 50 workshops with an average of 49 attendees for each session.

THE ENTERPRISE CENTER

This pandemic threatened 70 West Philadelphia elder residents with food insecurity due to limited available services and heightened health risks during the lockdown. The Enterprise Center began partnering with Philabundance to address this issue. With support and collaboration of the Easter Organization, they have been able to deliver groceries to those unable to travel and ensure seniors are cared for.

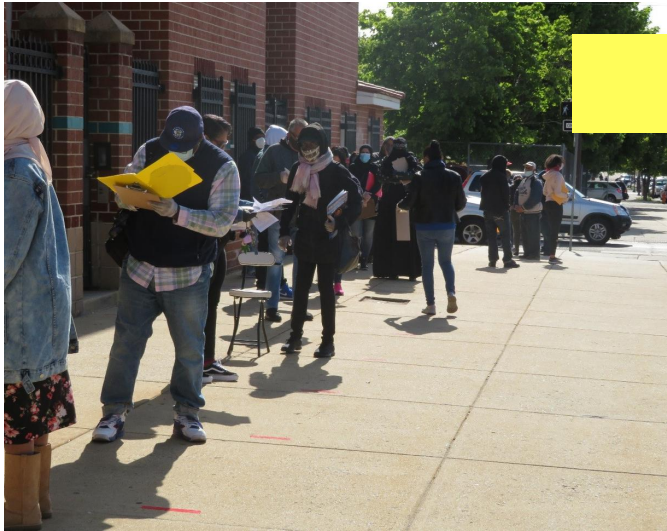


MT. VERNON MANOR CDC/NAC

During the pandemic, Mt. Vernon Manor has been able to distribute 750 boxes of food per week. With the closest supermarket being 2.1 miles away, this has been a useful resource for residents facing food insecurity.

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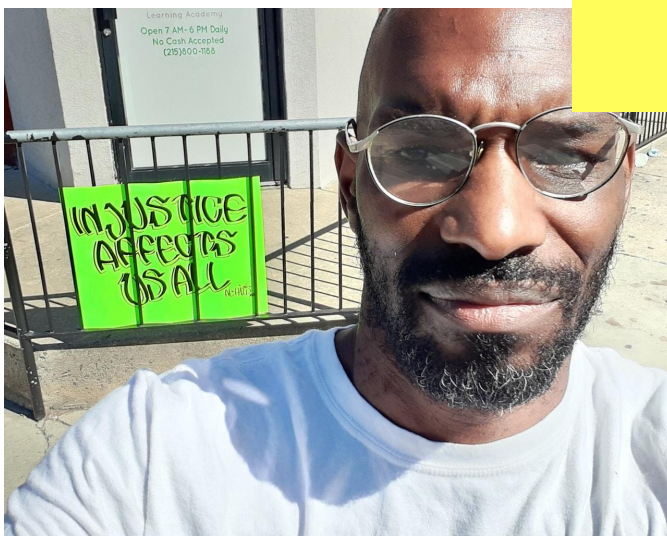


HACE

To meet heightened demand, HACE provided in-person assistance during the 5-day application window for COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance (May 12th-16th, 2020). HACE's team processed 145 in-person applications and fielded over 600 phone calls to provide guidance and help tenants apply by phone. HACE promoted the program and in-person application assistance to neighbors and partners while elevating new safety norms including wearing masks, gloves, and maintaining 6-foot distance between applicants.

SOUTH KENSINGTON COMMUNITY PARTNERS

SKCP has been working hard to inform and persuade their neighbors to complete the 2020 Census. They have orchestrated some virtual meetings, recruited volunteers to flyer around the neighborhood, and participated in phonebanking in the effort to get Philadelphia's self-response rate from 51.3% to 100%. To reach their community on social media, SKCP launched a social media campaign to bring daily facts about the Census to their virtual neighbors.



STRAWBERRY MANSION NAC

Witnessing national unrest responding to anti-black police violence, Strawberry Mansion NAC worked with neighboring communities including Allegheny West to coordinate a walk and rally on Saturday, June 13th. Walking groups traveled along 29th Street culminating with a rally at the Strawberry Mansion/L.P. Hill schoolyard. The rally included music, resources, and ongoing opportunities to be a part of the solution.

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FRANKFORD NAC

Frankford NAC collaborated with The Ray of Hope Project, Richard & Friends, and local churches to distribute clothing and 200 boxes of food to service area residents on June 20th, 2020 at 1900 E. Venango Street.

HUNTING PARK NAC

Hunting Park NAC has partnered with various community organizations to deliver food to local households every Friday. Volunteers come together three times per week to prepare bags containing food, masks, and community information for their residents. On average, NPCRC has delivered 600 bags per week during the pandemic.



PARKSIDE ASSOCIATION OF PHILADELPHIA



Parkside Association has been providing residents with masks, gloves, food, clothing, and hygiene products. Food is distributed via walk-up and curbside assistance to maintain social distancing guidelines. Parkside Association also assists residents with mail-in ballots, unemployment assistance, taxes, and much more.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

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FIND A FOOD SITE

The city of Philadelphia has created an online tool to find food sites across the city of Philadelphia. As of right now, most sites are open on Monday & Thursdays, from 10 a.m. to noon. You do not need to bring ID or proof of income to collect food.

Visit phila.gov/food to learn more and to find your nearest food site.

COVID-19 TESTING

The city's website has a mapfinder tool that allows you to find your nearest COVID-19 testing center. The site indicates there is no cost for testing. While they will ask you identification and health insurance information, they will not turn you away for failure to present. However, each site does have its own criteria for visits. Please call sites before visiting.

Visit phila.gov/testing for more information and to find your testing site.



COVID-19 EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE

The city has rolled out phase two of their emergency rental assistance programs for families that have lost income during the pandemic. If you applied for phase 1, you can still apply for phase 2. Landlords must agree to participate for final approval.

To learn the criteria and to apply, visit phlrentassist.org.



WHERE CAN YOU FIND THE NAC'S?

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ACHIEVEability
59 N. 60th St., Phila.
(215) 748-8800
achieveability.org

**Asociacion
Puertorriquenos en Marcha**
600 W. Diamond St.
(267) 296-7215
apmphila.org

Brewerytown-Sharswood
3000-D W. Master St.
(267) 858-4266
brewerytownsharswood.org

**Diversified Community
Services (Dixon House)**
1529 S. 22nd St.
(215) 336-5505
dcsphila.org

Frankford CDC
4667-69 Paul St.
(215) 743-6580
frankfordcdc.org

Germantown United CDC
5320 Germantown Ave.
(215) 856-4303
germantownunitedcdc.org

**Greater Philadelphia Asian
Social Service Center
(GPASS)**
4943 N. 5th St.
(215) 456-1662

HACE
167 W. Allegheny Ave.
(215) 426-8025
hacecdc.org

Hunting Park NAC
3760 N. Delhi St.
(215) 225-5560
huntingparknac.org

Mt. Vernon Manor, Inc.
631 N. 39th St.
(215) 475-9492
mvmcdc.org

New Kensington CDC
2771 Ruth St., Ste. 1
(215) 427-0350
nkcdc.org

Nicetown CDC
4300 Germantown Ave.
(215) 329-1627
nicetowncdc.org

**Parkside Community
Association**
1719 N. 52nd St.
(215) 877-1198
parksideassociation.org

People's Emergency Center
3939 Warren St.
(267) 770-5820
pec-cares.org

**Philadelphia Chinatown
Development Corporation**
301-305 N. 9th St.
(215) 922-2156
chinatown-pcdc.org

**South Kensington
Community Partners**
1301 N. 2nd St.
(215) 427-3463
southkensingtoncommunity.org

Southwest CDC
6328 Paschall Ave.
(215) 729-0800
southwestcdc.org

**Strawberry Mansion
Neighborhood Action
Center**
2829 W. Diamond St.
(215) 235-7505
strawberrymanscdc.org

The Enterprise Center
4548 Market St.
(215) 895-4020
theenterprisecenter.com

Tioga United, Inc.
1639 W. Venango St.
(267) 639-6912

Whitman Council, Inc.
2455 S. 3rd St.
(215) 468-4056