



**IMMEDIATE RELEASE – March 20, 2020**

Interfaith Community Services, 2820 W. Ina Road, Tucson, AZ 85741-2502, [www.icstucson.org](http://www.icstucson.org)

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***The Strength of the Tucson Community During COVID-19***

INTERFAITH COMMUNITY SERVICES (ICS) In response to COVID-19, ICS has focused our efforts to essential services: food banks, mobile meal delivery, modified transportation services. Protocols are in place in each service area with additional cleaning procedures, minimizing number of people gathered, and ensuring social distancing.

While some of our programs and services will be paused during the short term, ICS remains committed to providing food to our neighbors in need as we are able.

Volunteers are working tirelessly to provide basic necessities to those experiencing the immediate effects of the current COVID-19 crisis.

In just a few short days, we have seen a sharp increase in visits to our food banks. As grocery stores have seen shortages so have our food banks. In a four-hour-period we distributed 360 cans of food. At this rate our shelves will be bare in just two weeks.

But we also see incredible gestures of generosity. People reaching out asking, “How can I help?” All over Tucson, organizations, partners, businesses and communities overcoming incredible barriers to come together (in a ‘socially distanced’ way) to help each other. Already strong community networks have mobilized to address urgent needs facing all of us.

ICS has been overwhelmed by the greater Tucson community stepping up in this unprecedented time of rapidly changing needs. So many people want to help.

Here are some ways to help ICS right away:

1) Donate food at the two food bank locations: 2820 W. Ina Rd Monday – Friday between 9-4 and 8701 E. Old Spanish Trail Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 10-1

Drop off food donations at drive through collection sites:

Tuesday March 24 at Casas Church 10801N. La Cholla from 8:00am-6:00pm

Wednesday March 25 at St Mark Catholic Church 2727 W. Tangerine Rd from 10:30-2:30

Any Weekday 8-12 at St Marks UMC, 1431 W. Magee, Tucson, AZ 85704

We will be adding more drop off food donation drive through locations in the near future.

2) Volunteer in our food banks – sign up by clicking on the volunteer button at [icstucson.org](http://icstucson.org)

3) Donate money at [icstucson.org](http://icstucson.org) to help us keep our essential services available.

[www.icstucson.org](http://www.icstucson.org).

Established in 1985, Interfaith Community Services (ICS) provides food, job assistance, and emergency financial assistance to Pima County residents in need. ICS mobilizes volunteers to assist senior and disabled individuals with Mobile Meals, transportation, home repairs, calls and visits, and health and safety referrals. ICS offers compassionate support by leveraging the help of over 1,000 volunteers, over 115 diverse faith community partners and generous funders to assist our area's most vulnerable residents. ICS assists over 43,000 people a year. ICS has received Charity Navigator's highest rating of four stars ten years in a row for its fiscal responsibility and best practices. For more information about Interfaith Community Services, contact Karen Latendresse at 520-526-9310 or visit the website at [www.icstucson.org](http://www.icstucson.org).

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*Interfaith Community Services helps people in need achieve stable, healthy and independent lives..*