

Kindness Task Force Meeting

May 8, 2020 - 3 PM

Attendees: HRC Chair, Ori Blumenfeld; HRC Commissioner, Annette Saleh; Community Services Director, Jenny Rogers; Human Services Administrator, Jim Latta; HS Rachel Evans, HS Enisha Clark; Councilmember John Mirisch; Laura Margo; Deborah Frank; Kim Dankner; Marianne Chamber, Dame Munni Irone, Dana Beesen, Karen Buth, Alice Kuo, David Schirmer, Joe Evans, Keith Sterling, Jennifer Gasca, Michael Nettles, Daniel Martine, Alex Manavi, Sam Halfon.

Important #s and Links:

- beverlyhills.org/kindnesstaskforce - meeting minutes, KTF Book Club
- beverlyhills.org/bhvolunteers - volunteer opportunities
- redcrossblood.org CODE RoxburyBH - to donate blood at community blood drive.
- friendsofbhpl.org or bhpl.org - To find information about Friends of Library book club
- facebook.com/mealtohealUSA - donate meals to health care professionals
- facebook.com/annettesaleh To donate for Beverly Hills Front Line Meals
 - #beverlyhillsfrontlinemeals
 - Instagram @beverlyhillsfrontlinemeals - To donate meals to frontline workers
- beverlyhills.org/humanservices - To learn more about social services we offer to seniors and City's most vulnerable.
- beverlyhills.org/beverlyhillsbeautiful - To learn more about weekly community engagement projects.
- To help seniors get needed meals - call Human Services at 310-285-1078 or 310-285-1024 or email humanservices@beverlyhills.org.
- communitylifebh.org - Community Services page that offers over 100 links in Arts & Culture, Health & Wellness, Recreation and more.
- bit.ly/3c5S36o - Food Drive by BH students to help those in need.
- facebook.com/communitylifebh; @communitylifebh for Instagram and Twitter to follow all the wonderful community happenings in Beverly Hills.
- KTF has been successful in 90 volunteer matches to people in need
 - Needs include everything from grocery shopping and delivery, to dog walking and other basic daily activities.

- The Human Services Team has helped match volunteers to 55 seniors making weekly wellness check-in calls.
- Every resident in need has been matched with a volunteer
- KTF also provides opportunities to volunteer for local, nearby non-profits, charities, and other establishments who need volunteer support.
- *Neighbor to Neighbor* postcard is a local volunteer effort that the HRC established and is about neighbors helping neighbors.
 - Over 1700 postcards promoting this effort have been printed and 700 distributed to date.
 - This has greatly benefited the community in connecting people and instilling a very basic community concept with neighbors helping neighbors.
 - Neighbors helping Neighbors message will also be distributed through utilities bills.
- Four BH City Community Blood Drives have been coordinated in partnership with the Red Cross. One has already taken place and received 48 units, which far surpassed the goal of 42 units.
 - Upcoming Blood Drives: May 16 & May 28 at Roxbury Park & May 24 at La Cienega Park by appointment only. To participate, sign up at redcrossblood.org and use code RoxburyBH.
 - The City is partnering with Beverly Hills Rotary to host a community blood drive to benefit Cedars Sinai with blood donation by appt. on June 5 in the Municipal Gallery. Watch for details.
- Two community food drives have been started by two community members.
 - *Meals to Heal USA* is a program started by resident Laura Margo to support local restaurants while taking care of our health care professionals by providing lunches/dinners.
 - *Beverly Hills Frontline Meals* is a program started by Annette Saleh to support local restaurants while taking care of our City's first responders and essential workers.
- Community Services has four separate senior meal and nutrition programs and recently submitted a Grant Application for the Great Plates Program that supports local restaurants while providing meals to seniors in need.
 - Other meals programs provided are Roxbury Park's Senior Nutrition Program, the recently contracted program with the Hilton to help provide seniors meals, and Jewish Family Services.
- *Beverly Hills Beautiful*, a community engagement project, was established to share our community unity and spirit by providing two commu-

nity based projects each week for members of the community to participate in and share with us so we can share their creations with the world.

- Entering Week #3 with *Beverly Hills Blue* honoring our health care professionals, first responders and essential workers; and *Quarantine Karaoke* where people can share themselves singing tunes by their most beloved artist or band.
- *Kindness Task Force Book Club* started by Councilmember John Mirisch will resume on May 17 with the last two chapters from *The Great Gatsby* read by Human Relations Commissioner Karen Levyn. Invites will be sent out to KRF volunteers.
 - Anyone interested in continuing with a book club after the final reading of *The Great Gatsby* can join BH Public Library Book Clubs.
 - High School students Alex Manavi & Sam Halfon spoke about a food drive they have organized to help those in need. They would love some help and support in promoting it on social media or sending out their flyer to email distribution lists that people might have as well as donating to their cause. Their link is bit.ly/3c5S36o.
 - Beverly Hills Beautiful – Weeks 4, 5 & 6 upcoming
- Next meeting, May 22, 2020, June KTF meetings on June 5 & 19.