



Winnebago County

Health Department

NEWS RELEASE

April 13, 2020

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Emergency Operations Center and Salvation Army Open Donations Center

WINNEBAGO COUNTY – The Winnebago County Emergency Operations Center, in coordination with The Salvation Army, has announced the opening of the COVID-19 Donations Center. The center, located at 5460 E. State Street in Rockford (the former Circuit City building), is accepting donations Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Donations (except PPE) will be distributed to agencies serving the homeless and those in need during the COVID-19 crisis. Personal Protective Equipment donations will be distributed to local health care facilities.

The following items are the ONLY items accepted at the center:

- paper products (paper towels, napkins and paper plates)
- personal hygiene items (shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, razors, lotion, and body wash)
- baby care items (diapers, baby wipes, baby blankets, baby bottles and formula)
- cleaning supplies
- laundry supplies
- homemade face masks
- personal protective equipment for first responders and health care workers, including:
 - N95 masks (NIOSH approved)
 - Procedure masks (ASTM II or III)
 - Isolation gowns
 - Exam gloves (nitrile or vinyl)
 - Eye protection (glasses or goggles)
 - Face shields
 - Hand wipes
 - TYVEK suits
 - Sanitizing wipes
 - Sanitizing sprays
 - Anti-microbial hand soap
 - Hand sanitizer
 - Biohazards bags
 - Gallons of bleach
 - Thermometers (touchfree)
 - Shoe covers

Community members interested in making masks should follow the guidance provided by CDC at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html> or on the Winnebago County Health Department website at www.wchd.org.

When dropping off donations, community members will stay in their car. Masked and gloved volunteers will collect the items from the vehicle. Donations should not be dropped off outside of the staffed hours.

Special thanks to the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, National Electrical Contractors Association, Fitzgerald Equipment, Rockford ShareFest, and First Free Rockford, as well as numerous other community partners.

NOTE TO MEDIA – At 10 a.m. on Tuesday, April 14, media are invited to the Donations Center for footage of the center, as well as an interview with The Salvation Army.

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