

NEWS RELEASE Pictures Attached Immediate Release April 1, 2021 Contact: Gail A. Landis, C.P.M Rotary Public Relations Director C: 814.322.8325 Gail Landis@comcast.net

ROTARY CLUB SUPPORTS BERKS COUNTY COVID-19 COMMUNITY NEEDS.

The Rotary Club of West Reading-Wyomissing applied for and was awarded a grant from Rotary District 7430 to support Covid-19 relief efforts in our local community. We engaged and collaborated with Co-County Wellness Services since they were designated the contact tracing agency within our community.

"When our club learned there was grant money available for clubs to use in their own backyard to assist with Covid-19 related causes, we knew we had to act quickly. The West Reading-Wyomissing Rotary Club is active in the community and willing to lend a hand for our neighbors in need. This was an easy to execute and far-reaching project providing a great benefit to our local community." said Carolyne Jordan, President-Elect for the Rotary Club of West Reading-Wyomissing. "We appreciate Commissioner Barnhardt's office for connecting our two organizations."

Co-County Wellness Services has been key in meeting Berks County response during the Covid pandemic and we reached out to them to identify current needs including contact tracing. They requested we focus on providing covid safety supplies to keep clients and staff safe along with food items to support people who are not able to leave home to shop for groceries.

Carolyn Bazik, Executive Director of Co-County Wellness Services said, "We are grateful to the West Reading-Wyomissing Rotary for their support. The supplies this grant paid for will help keep our clients and staff safe. The food drive will allow us to continue to meet the needs of individuals and families facing food security issues resulting from COVID 19 isolation and quarantine."

Thanks to our fellow Rotarians and community participants our food drive at the Berkshire Blvd. Redner's Fresh Market on March 20th was a great success. We collected 43 large (and heavy) boxes filled with non-perishable foods, and \$220.00 in cash that we turned into Redner's gift cards for Co-County Wellness Services to purchase perishable foods when needed. Canned meats, peanut butter and jelly, macaroni and cheese, rice and beans and pastas were among the foods donated. Additionally, the West Reading-Wyomissing Rotary club provided reusable bags to transport the food to the people in need. Covid safety supplies donated included 3 cases of Nitrile Gloves and a case of N95 masks.

The Rotary motto is "Service	Above Self".	

West Reading-Wyomissing Rotary is part of Rotary District 7430 with 43 Rotary Clubs located in Montgomery, Bucks, Berks, Lehigh, and Northampton Counties of Southeastern Pennsylvania. Rotary is a global network of 1.2 million neighbors, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change in our communities and in ourselves. Rotary members share a unique passion to act on our world's most persistent issues. Our causes include promoting peace; fight disease; provide clean water, sanitation, and hygiene; save mothers and children; support education along with the environment and grow local economies. www.ourrotaryclub.org https://www.facebook.com/WestReadingWyomissingRotary

<u>Co-County Wellness Service</u> promotes public health and welfare through accessible prevention and compassionate care, serving individual and community health needs. <u>www.cocounty.org</u>

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Help us help others in need. Purchase items from the list below. Return items to our collection bin today before 5pm.

To learn more about our club: www.OurRotaryClub.org

facebook.com/WestReadingWyomissingRotary

AISLE	ITEIVI
2A	Can of Chicken
2A	Can of Tuna
2A	Can of Ham
2A	Can of Corned Beef
2A	Can of Spam
5A	Spaghetti Sauce jar or can 14 oz -24 oz
5A	Pasta – 1 pound package any type
2A	1 lb package of rice
2A	Pouch of ready rice
2A	Mac-n-cheese box mix
7A	Peanut butter 15 oz -16 oz
7A	Jelly Grape or Strawberry 12 oz – 20 oz
3A	Cereal 12 oz – 16 oz box
2A/3A	Bags of dry beans

We are also accepting gift cards in any amount to purchase perishable items at times of need. Redner's gift cards are located at the registers.



Did you know COVID-19 contact tracing services for all of Berks County is supported by Co-County Wellness Services? Absent a local public health department CCWS fills that void in as many ways as possible. They are delivering food to families in need as they recover from COVID-19. Donations received today will support



