

The Apache Junction/Gold Canyon community, its social service agencies, faith-based community, businesses, Apache Junction Chamber of Commerce and the City of Apache Junction have come together to form a task force to handle times of hardship like what we as a community are experiencing with COVID-19. As a part of addressing critical community needs, we have banded together to bring about the Apache Junction Cares community drive. This drive will focus on monetary donations made to Empowerment Systems Inc. that will then be used to purchase supplies in bulk through suppliers of VFW Post #7968. This cross-collaboration between the private and public sectors show Apache Junction leading the way in responding and providing aid to residents most vulnerable.

Through this collaboration, we have identified community volunteers who are willing to help deliver and distribute needed supplies to community members who may not have access to them. **To donate, residents are encouraged to visit www.empowermentsystems.org/ajcares.**

Who is eligible to receive donations? Senior citizens, home-bound residents, low-income, vulnerable at-risk and homeless residents of Apache Junction and Gold Canyon.

How to access supplies? Residents in need are encouraged to contact the Salvation Army at 480-982-4110 between the hours of Monday – Friday from 9am – 3pm.

Residents will be placed on a distribution list where they will provide their name, address, phone number, number of people in the household, and basic list of needed supplies. Those in need of items will have the option to do curbside pickup at VFW Post #7968 or have their items delivered (free of charge). Individuals receiving donations will be required to present identification at the time of delivery to ensure that the name matches the order. We are required to track the name, address, date of birth, and number of people in each household to ensure accuracy in clients served.

Items distributed to clients will be limited to a maximum of two items per category. They will only be allowed to receive distribution once a week (as long as there are available supplies). **Clients who have not received services will be given priority.**

This drive is a collaborative effort between social service agencies that service the Apache Junction/Gold Canyon region. 100% of all donations will go back into the community; Empowerment Systems Inc. is merely providing the platform for donations. To volunteer or find out how you can get involved, please contact Braden Biggs with Empowerment Systems at 480-367-6937 x102.

