

Lansdale area YMCA, Rotarians help with Manna food donation

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LANSDALE -- On Friday, April 10, roughly 10,000 pounds of shelf stable food drive donations were delivered by Philabundance to Manna on Main Street.

Sorting and delivering that much food was a monster job that YMCA staff, its board of directors' leadership, and North Penn Rotarians happily stepped up to do.

"Dealing with the effects of COVID 19 requires out-of-the-box thinking" said Paula Schafer, administrator of MontCo Anti-Hunger Network. "We're very grateful the Lansdale Area Family YMCA brought the muscle we needed to put our out-of-the-box idea into motion."

MontCo Anti-Hunger Network provides resources that help county food pantries feed more than 15,000 households per year. They coordinated the collaboration of the Lansdale Area Family YMCA and essential service providers working to relieve COVID 19 induced hunger.

Some of the food will be delivered to Martha's Choice Marketplace, operated by Catholic Social Services in Norristown. Client volume there has increased dramatically as a result of government- imposed business closings. "The Y is committed to serving the community during the virus crisis" said Bob Varga, branch executive, Lansdale Area Family YMCA. "When we heard that numbers at Martha's Choice Marketplace were double to triple the norm, we rolled up our sleeves to dig in."

The people hit hardest by the virus are those without the financial cushion needed to weather a layoff, kids missing out on school meal programs, and seniors without means who are also the most vulnerable to the virus. You can help keep these people get fed by donating to the COVID 19 Hunger Relief fund at [MontCoAntiHunger.org](https://www.MontCoAntiHunger.org).