

# Council on Aging

## COVID-19 Success Story



### Harry – Hamilton County, April 10, 2020

Council on Aging relied on the help of many generous volunteers during the COVID-19 pandemic. Volunteers collected, packaged and delivered supplies, and others helped with weekly wellness checks by phone.

Robin, with Lakota Hills Baptist Church (LHBC), volunteered for COA by calling seniors for weekly wellness check ins. On Good Friday, Robin spoke with Harry, 72, who told her he was out of food.

Robin went into action and alerted staff at COA to Harry's needs. Because of this teamwork, a COA staff member, Allyssia, was able to get Harry an emergency food box to get him through the Easter weekend until his next meal would arrive.

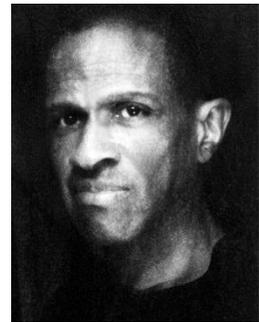
"I literally had nothing to eat. I was losing a lot of weight because I haven't been eating," Harry said

Harry had not been out of his North College Hill apartment in almost two months and was thrilled when Allyssia arrived with his emergency care package. "He was so grateful, he immediately started crying," Allyssia remembered.

When asked about the food delivery, Harry couldn't thank COA and Robin enough. "You really saved my life. She rescued me." The orange juice, milk and other foods got him through a tough time and his food box included something new to him – pistachios. "I have never had them before and I am now in love with them - they are so good!"

Robin was delighted to be part of this effort. "We're so blessed to be able to take care of seniors," she said, "and we love helping out. This is a hard time, but there definitely is light at the end of the tunnel."

Harry is familiar with Council on Aging because his mother received home-delivered meals from COA. Through taking care of her prior to her passing in 2018, Harry has always been impressed with COA and the help we provide; so much so, that he is now planning to receive his own home-delivered meals on a regular basis as a COA client.



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### Joan – Clinton County Elderly Services Program

April 14, 2020

If Joan can do something, she will. She is an independent person, but knows that as she is aging, she cannot do it all. Joan has been a Clinton County Elderly Services Program (ESP) client for a few years, receiving weekly light homemaking as well as an electronic monitoring system (life alert button).

When COVID-19 entered the world and changed lives, times were uncertain. Council on Aging (COA) and ESP were able to be a support for Joan. Her ESO care manager, Carla, was able to provide some personal supplies – toilet tissue, paper towels, disinfectant spray and wipes.

As if things weren't uncertain enough, the wheel on Joan's walker broke. Because of the health crisis, she was not able to get a new one delivered. However, Carla stepped in and was able to get it and deliver it to Joan, making her life easier.



“Council on Aging has been a great help. Without them, I would have to go to a nursing home.”

For more information about how Council on Aging is serving seniors at this time, please visit [www.help4seniors.org](http://www.help4seniors.org). Any senior who needs help during the difficult time should contact Council on Aging at 513-721-1025.

**About Council on Aging:** Council on Aging of Southwestern Ohio (COA) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing quality of life for older adults, people with disabilities, their families and caregivers. COA promotes choice, independence, dignity and well-being through a range of services that help people remain independent for as long as possible.

COA is a state-designated Area Agency on Aging serving Butler, Clermont, Clinton, Hamilton and Warren counties. One call to COA links people to the wide variety of agencies, information and programs that serve older adults and people with disabilities.

175 Tri County Parkway, Cincinnati, OH 45246 | 513-721-1025 | 800-252-0155 | [www.help4seniors.org](http://www.help4seniors.org)