

ORCAS UPDATE 08/27/20
From the Orcas Island Community Foundation

FROM OICF

OICF and OIEF (Orcas Island Education Foundation) are launching an initiative to raise \$150,000 to support public school students and educators in the coming school year. The School District is finding ways to creatively address the challenges of remote learning. It is partnering with Camp Orkila to provide a day per week of outdoor education for all k-5 students, as well as ensuring all students and families have adequate digital access. The cost of these efforts are significant, and our goal is to help bridge the gap. OIEF has already made a significant lead gift – but YOUR contribution is needed.

Donations can be made to the Community Emergency Response Fund [HERE](#), or mailed to OICF PO Box 1496, Eastsound, WA 98245. Donations are eligible for the Seattle Foundation's "All In Washington matching" campaign. (Please note **All In WA/OISD** in the recognition field, or on the memo line of your check to be counted).

Let's step up for our students! ANY gift is so appreciated!

OPALCO

1. OPALCO has COVID-19 relief benefits available through the end of October (extension pending Board review): <https://www.opalco.com/covid-19-relief-measures/>.

2. Rock Island offers a \$25/month bill credit for customers on OPALCO's Energy Assist Program. Show them your power bill to get the credit. Rock Island applied for a USDA distance learning grant to install remote learning facilities to support teachers and share teaching resources in every middle- and high-school classroom in SJC. Grant awards will be announced at year end. Currently, more than 100 students county-wide are connected to FREE internet service for online schooling through Rock Island's "Access Education" program. Contact your school if your student is in need.

ORCAS LIBRARY

The Orcas Island Library continues offering curbside pickup for reserved materials.

We invite you to reserve books, DVDs, and other materials through our website by searching the online catalog, identifying items you want, and placing the request (or "hold") using your account information (card number and PIN; or your EZ Login). You may have a total of up to ten holds at a time on one account. Look for an email when your holds are available. If you don't have an email address on your account, we'll give you a call.

Reserved items are available for pickup at our front entrance between 12 and 3 pm on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. This approval is for curbside pickup only, and no one is allowed inside the building. When approaching the pickup table, please maintain the 6' spacing requirement and wear a facemask.

Please visit our website for more details, or call us at 360-376-4985 with any questions or concerns. If you don't have internet access to place requests, we can place them over the phone for you.

Also, our website shares information about our ongoing programs, as well as about our variety of online resources such as eBooks and eAudiobooks.

Our book returns are all open, so please continue returning items as usual, whether checked out during our closed period or more recently.

We soon plan to offer “grab bags” of library materials for quick checkout during our curbside hours. This will be items grouped by topic or type of fiction genre. More information soon!

ORCAS COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER (OCRC)

Orcas Community Resource Center is here to help Islanders in need of additional support due to the COVID Crisis as we continue to operate our regular community assistance programs.

The **distribution of the *COATES Cabinet Essential Needs, Hygiene, and Cleaning Supplies* is on the first and third Tuesday of each month** (Sept 1 and 15.) We ask that orders be submitted by phone or email no later than 12:00 pm the first and third Monday of each month to allow our staff time for preparation. Phone: 360-376-3184 Email: holly@orcascrc.org

Is your child entering kindergarten this fall? The Orcas Community Resource Center has goodie bags filled with educational supplies and fun activities to prep your pre-school graduates for their *Kindergarten Transition*. For more information, call 360-376-3184 or email info@orcascrc.org.

The Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) deadline is fast approaching! Families with school-age children K-12 who receive free or reduced-price school meals qualify for this one-time pandemic benefit. Go to www.washington.connection to apply by **August 31, 2020**.

To ensure the health and safety of the community including our clients and staff, we continue to operate remotely at this time. Please see our website at www.orcascrc.org or give us a call at 360-376-3184 for more information or to request assistance.

RENT OR MORTGAGE PAYMENT ASSISTANCE

If you need help paying your rent or mortgage, please fill out the form (available in English and Spanish) at OPAL Community Land Trust's website: www.opalclt.org.

SENIOR RESOURCES

1) Home delivered meals are provided to seniors on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Please contact Jami Mitchell (360-376-7926) with Senior Services to get signed up for Meals on Wheels.

2) Delivery of essential household goods such as food or medicine is available. Please contact Heidi Bruce with Senior Services at 360-370-0591 or heidib@sanjuanco.com, or contact Jana Daniel-Webb with the Orcas Community Resource Center at 360-376-3184 or jana@orcascrc.org.

3) Are you a senior? Would you appreciate a regular phone check-in by an Orcas Senior Center volunteer during your self-isolation? We have contacted a number of you already, but we are

missing many phone numbers. If you want to participate in the Orcas Senior Center Buddies Check-In Program, email Buddies@orcasseniors.org or call John Slater at (360) 919-9318.

ISLAND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH INITIATIVE (IRHI) is providing the following:

CONDOMS are FREE for anyone at—OCRC, SAFE SJs, Ray's Pharmacy, Orcas Food Coop, The Kitchen, Doe Bay Store, and Sequel.

PLAN B (Morning After Pill) and **PREGNANCY TEST kits** at Ray's Pharmacy: FREE for IRHI patients.

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE: Most Services FREE for IRHI patients. Doctors are available during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Call first! Orcas Family Health Center (OFHC) 360-376-7778, or UW Medicine Orcas Island 360-376-2561

Eligibility for IRHI coverage—anyone who is uninsured, under-insured (health insurance deductible over \$250), cannot meet deductible, or for reason of confidentiality is unable to pay for medication or medical care.

For more information, go to www.irhiorcas.weebly, www.facebook.com/IRHI/orcas, or contact Jean Henigson (360-376-6549), for Spanish contact Alex Stephenson (808-430-7885)

FROM THE RECOVERY COMMUNITY:

Alcoholics Anonymous offers 10 zoom meetings/week, covering every day of the week. Their website is www.orcasislandaa.org. There is a local phone number for info/requests: 360-376-4522.

Recovery in Community (RIC) is available to help Orcas Islanders with mental health and substance abuse problems who do not currently have access to the kinds of supports and resources they need. Trained RIC volunteer advocates can help these islanders to access treatment, transportation, therapy, housing, food, legal services and social supports. Where an islander cannot do it on their own, Recovery in Community may be able to help. If you or someone you know needs assistance, call 360-317-3119 and find out more about us at www.ricorcas.com.