



October 1, 2020

Dear Friends and Supporters of MUM:

I have some bittersweet news to share with you. Several months ago, I informed MUM's Board of Directors of my intention to retire before the year is out. I've thoroughly enjoyed serving as MUM's Executive Director over the past 8 years. Along with the challenge of serving, I've had the chance to meet so many wonderful people who have helped me change lives for the better. I'm also proud that MUM's reach and influence has grown significantly and that is in large part due to your steadfast support of our mission – helping those in need in our community. Although I'm retiring, I intend to remain involved with MUM because lots of work still remains to be done and I hope that you will continue to support such a wonderful organization.

In early March, MUM mailed out an appeal for help in view of the coming flood of demands that would be at MUM's door due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The community's response was so gratifying and very much appreciated. Congregations, civic organization and the Montgomery County government stepped up to help us meet the challenge. We had many individuals give as well – some for the very first time – and I was even more grateful to the several donors who donated the stimulus money they had received from the Federal government at the time to help us feed those who needed the assistance.

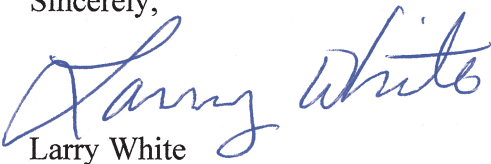
As many of you know, MUM started its Sunday Mobile Pantry in 2016 to provide food to those individuals in need who couldn't make it to our main office pantry in the Westfields Wheaton South Tower. Since its inception, the mobile pantry has served on average between 25-30 people each week. However, because of COVID, and in an effort to keep our clients, staff and volunteers safe, we shifted all of our food distribution efforts to our Sunday Mobile Pantry locations. As a result of this action, we are now providing food to more than 150 individual households each week during the 2-hour period in which the mobile pantry operates. Again, this could not happen without your generous support. And again, I also want to thank the Montgomery County government and the U.S. Department of Agriculture for providing the fresh produce boxes we received each week that we were able to distribute which supplemented the 20-25 lbs. of non-perishable food we provided.

While we have no idea when this COVID pandemic will end, we do know that more and more people will be in need of MUM's assistance...not just for food. With the moratoriums on utility disconnections and eviction being lifted as we head into winter, we expect to see a huge request for assistance from individual living in the 5 zip code service area we serve and this will undoubtedly deplete MUM's resources more quickly than we had budgeted for.

Your continued support of MUM is extremely important if it is to meet its mission – “helping people in crisis in the Silver Spring, Wheaton, Kensington, Rockville and Aspen Hill communities with food, medicine, eviction prevention and utility assistance, emphasizing client choice, problem-solving and self-sufficiency.” Therefore, as I’m heading off into retirement, I’m asking one more time if you’d be able to help out – any amount of support is welcomed. Donations can be sent in the enclosed addressed envelope or can be sent online via our website: [www.mumhelp.org](http://www.mumhelp.org)

Thank you again for your commitment to MUM. It’s been truly an honor and privilege being a part of this organization for nearly two decades and being its Executive Director for the past 8 years. I look forward to seeing MUM do even greater things – with your help – in the future!

Sincerely,



Larry White

“The Man from MUM”