



## August 2020 COVID-19 Update

### How the global pandemic has changed the way we serve our families

--from Harold E. Rice, Jr.  
CEO of the Ada Jenkins Center

Friends,

It's been just over a month since I started as CEO of the Ada Jenkins Center. Even without a global pandemic, any transition has its challenges. Still, I'm delighted to say that the past month has been an incredibly positive experience, thanks to the staff and the community members who have welcomed me so warmly.

We've been working tirelessly to address the needs of the families we serve and, like organizations everywhere, have had to pivot our longtime services:

- Our most 'close contact' services - our free Medical and Dental clinics - are still closed to the public. Remarkably, our medical staff are serving the same number of patients, if not more, who have embraced the idea of appointments via telemedicine.
- Our Coordinated Services case workers and Workforce Development staff, similarly, are assisting client-partners via teleconference.
- Our Food Pantry continues to operate its weekly no-contact drive-through service.
- And you may have seen our big announcement last week: in response to Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools' remote-only reopening, and thanks to federal CARES Act funding, **we are instituting a LEARN Works Day Program, to assist parents who are working and/or taking educational classes or training.** Classroom coordinators and volunteers will supervise their students' remote learning, in the Ada Jenkins Center's classrooms. Classes will operate at 50% capacity, and will require face coverings, social distancing and handwashing/sanitizing. In addition, we are continuing to operate the afternoon LEARN Works program.

As you can see, even a global pandemic can't slow us down. The Ada Jenkins Center is working harder than ever to fulfill our mission: **We exist to help people create lasting solutions for economic stability.**

To that end, I am pleased to announce that through June - thanks to generous grants and donations from community members like you - **we were able to assist 155 area families with critical needs such as mortgage, rent, and utilities: nearly \$185,000 worth.** The need is ongoing: we continue to field calls every day from families seeking this assistance.

***We can't say thank you enough*** for your continued support of the families in our community. If I haven't yet met you, I hope to do so in the months ahead.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Harold Rice".

Harold Rice  
Chief Executive Officer

**Ada Jenkins Center**

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**Ps: Want to be part of the solution?** Please help us serve even more families with a gift that's comfortable for you: <https://adajenkins.org/donate/> . Checks may be mailed to the address above.