

MEDIA RELEASE

Canton City Public Health

Contact: Dawn Miller, THRIVE Project Manager

Telephone: 234-410-3087

420 Market Avenue North, Canton, OH 44702

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For Immediate Release

Stark County THRIVE Gives Extra Help During COVID-19 Pandemic

Canton, Ohio – Due to the impact of COVID-19 on its families, Stark County THRIVE, managed by Canton City Public Health, applied for and received \$12,870 from the HealthPath Foundation of Ohio and Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton. These funds will be used to provide household disinfection and personal care products unable to be purchased with SNAP benefits to the 300 families and individuals currently enrolled with a THRIVE certified community health worker. Those currently enrolled include pregnant women, caregivers of children under age one, and adults with chronic disease.

THRIVE certified community health workers will deliver the items to their clients via door drop in accordance with recommended social distancing, wearing of face covering, and use of hand sanitizer. Approximately, 600 bags of items will be distributed over the next few weeks.

Certified Community Health Workers are employed at Stark County agencies who partner with Stark County THRIVE's Pathways HUB. These agencies are: Access Health Stark County, Akron Children's Hospital, Alliance Family Health Center, CommQuest, Margaret B. Shipley Child Health Clinic, My Community Health Center, Stark Community Support Network, Stark County Department of Job and Family Services, Stark County Health Department, Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority and YWCA of Canton.

New Pointe Community Church, Canton and USA Quick Print donated masks and printing services to support this effort in cooperation with Fishers Foods.

THRIVE is a collaborative between Stark County residents, organizations, agencies, and businesses focused on preventing and reducing the rates of infant deaths and disparities in birth outcomes. More information is available at cantonhealth.org/thrive/