

THINK DIGNITY

JUNE 2020

NEWSLETTER

In an effort to protect the health and safety of our community and staff, we will continue to **temporarily halt all mobile and in-person services/meetings** (except for the TSC) until July 1st.

COVID-19 UPDATE OF OUR SERVICES

We will continue to monitor the situation and post updates on our newsletters and social media. We have also engaged in numerous new initiatives to address other immediate needs, so read below to find out more!

Advancing Basic Dignity of Homeless San Diegans



Since last month, we received an additional 9,000 hygiene items through your incredible support of our Amazon Wishlist and individual donations, bringing our total inventory **to over 45,000 items!** Many of you also sponsored Dignity Kits for \$25 each, **raising nearly \$5,000 to sponsor 200 Dignity Kits!**

We are now in the final stretches of reaching our goal of 1,000

Dignity Kits to support homeless San Diegans, and **we are in need of the following items to complete our kits:**

- 68 packs of regular menstrual pads (pack of 66)
- 500 individual hand sanitizers
- 400 deodorant
- 500 individual tissue packs/sanitizing wipes

Most of these items can be purchased through our Amazon Wishlist, so please consider

clicking the link below to help us advance basic dignity for our unsheltered neighbors!

Amazon Wishlist for Dignity Kits

On The Frontlines: **Transitional Storage Center**

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, our Transitional Storage Center (TSC) has continued to expand their services to address the varying basic needs of our homeless clients. In addition to providing safe and secure storage of personal belongings for homeless San Diegans, our TSC staff members have also provided the following within one month:



1000
water bottles



200
granola bars



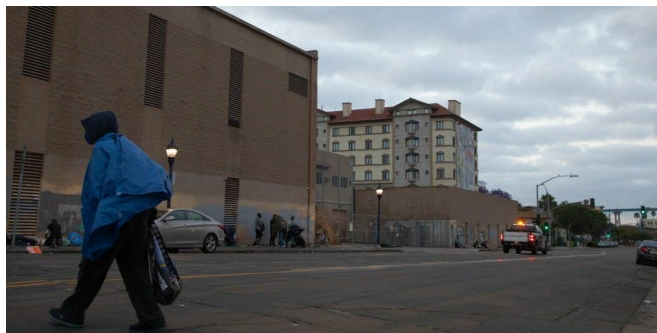
250
masks



50
hygiene kits

Moreover, our staff recognized the need for charging stations and assistance with receiving federal benefits, such as the economic stimulus payments, and they have consistently gone above and beyond to ensure that every client continued to have access to essential services and resources.

Criminalization of Homelessness during COVID-19



A San Diego police truck drives down 16th Street at dawn on May 20, 2020, with an officer telling the homeless people through a speaker to wake up. (Zoë Meyers/inewsourc)

A recent article from [inewsourc](#) highlighted the continued criminalization of homeless individuals during the COVID-19 pandemic, revealing that the San Diego Police Department "issued more than twice as many tickets for illegal lodging — an infraction largely directed at homeless people — compared to the same time last year." Research conducted by the *inewsourc* staff also showed that police officers issued an average of 21 tickets per day on illegal lodging, encroachment, and vehicle habitation charges as coronavirus cases continued to escalate in the City of San Diego.

[Read the full article](#)

Our Corporate Dignity Defenders



TZU CHI FOUNDATION

The Tzu Chi Foundation graciously donated **500 masks, brand new undergarments, socks, and razors** to support our Dignity Kits! We truly appreciate their compassion for addressing the various basic needs of homeless San Diegans.



CHULA VISTA QUILTERS' GUILD

The Chula Vista Quilters' Guild generously stepped in to **make 50 homemade masks** with beautiful patterns for our Dignity Kits to support our unsheltered neighbors.



CRYSTAL'S NAILS AND SPA

Crystal's Nails and Spa had shifted gears in their services to create beautiful homemade masks for our communities, **donating 50 masks** to our Dignity Kits to



BIG SUNDAY & 60 SECONDS OF LIGHT

Through the Los Angeles-based non-profit, Big Sunday, we were able to receive **1,000 reusable cloth masks** from their partner,

#DignityDefender Partner Highlight



Voices of Our City Choir celebrates after receiving the Golden Buzzer on America's Got Talent. (Source: America's Got Talent, May 26, 2020)

We are incredibly proud of our partner, Voices of Our City Choir (VOCC), for their musical success during their audition on America's Got Talent. Through their captivating performance of their original song, "Sounds of the Street," and their sincerity of sharing their personal experiences of homelessness in San Diego, VOCC moved the hearts of the judges--Simon Cowell, Heidi Klum, Howie Mandel, and Sofia Vergara--and host Terry Crews to receive the Golden Buzzer. Their resilience and courage to break through every obstacle and fight for their dreams have truly been inspiring for our communities, and we are excited to see their continued successes!

[Click here to watch VOCC's audition](#)

Other Ways You Can Support

Love our innovative programs?

You can support them through any of these options!

[Donate to our programs](#)

[Forward this to a friend](#)

[Be a sustaining member](#)

[Shop on Amazon Smile](#)

By selecting Think Dignity as your Amazon Smile beneficiary, you can automatically donate .5% of your purchases straight to our programs at no extra cost!

Impact of Your Support

As a **Sustaining Member**, your commitment helps us ensure the longevity and success of our programs and advocacy efforts.

Your monthly donation can:

\$5/mo.

(\$60/year)

Provides 15 women with brand new undergarments at our Street Boutique

\$10/mo.

(\$120/year)

Provides half a month's supply of water for those living on the streets

\$25/mo.

(\$300/year)

Sponsors a shower and hygiene pack for one person for an entire year

\$60/mo.

(\$720/year)

Sponsors one Legal Clinic site to provide access to justice for homeless individuals

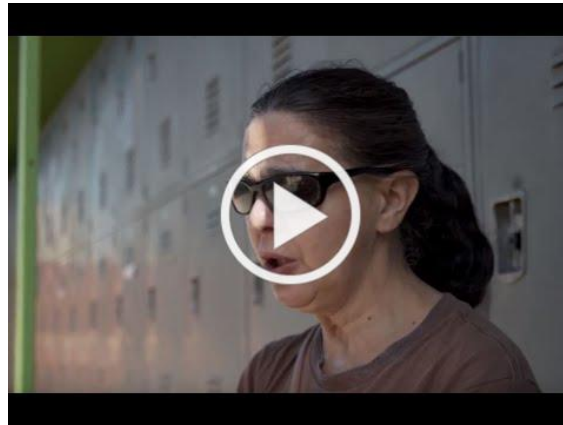
\$100/mo.

(\$1,200/year)

Sponsors three lockers at our Transitional Storage Center for an entire year

Every amount counts.

Your generosity can make a great impact in another person's life and transform our communities as shown in our new video below.



Our organization is primarily supported by private donations, and through your generosity, **we are able to advance basic dignity for our unsheltered neighbors.** Thank you!

Special Thanks to our Think Dignity Sponsors

Robbins Geller
Rudman & Dowd LLP

h+e
Haeggquist and Eck



CASEY GERRY SCHENK FRANCAVILLA BLATT & PENFIELD LLP

Think Dignity is a grassroots 501(c)(3) non-profit organization working towards community-based solutions through hands-on advocacy and local advocacy.

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