

GALLERY: Groups across Collin County work together to provide meals, dental kits, testing coupons





Noreen Choudhury, a volunteer with In-Fretta, gathers meals for a family outside of Allen Community Outreach. (Liesbeth Powers/Community Impact Newspaper)

Now is the chance to help your local community succeed. Become a Patron by contributing to *Community Impact Newspaper* and gain daily insight into what's happening in your own backyard. Thank you for reading and supporting community journalism.



By **Liesbeth Powers** | 12:45 PM Apr 30, 2020 CDT | Updated 12:33 PM May 7, 2020 CDT





Free meals from Plano, dental kits from McKinney and coupons for free testing for the new coronavirus in Frisco were all handed out at an April 29 event in Allen.

The free testing and meals event was hosted by the Allen-Plano Community Grocery Supply and Support for the Most Vulnerable, a group formed to assist the elderly and vulnerable during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The service began with Nida Rehman's elderly neighbor, who Rehman said she checked on multiple times before she felt comfortable asking for a small favor.

"I was like, 'If she needs something, I'm sure there's so many other people who might need help,'" Rehman said.

The grocery service has now grown into a community [Facebook group](#) with more than 700 members. It assists those who are able to pay for their groceries but need help picking them up, but mostly, Rehman said, it assists those who are in need of free food.

RELATED STORIES

- [Some Plano businesses, residents test waters for partial reopening, but many stay home](#)
- [Gallery: Some residents return to Plano restaurants, retailers as businesses gradually reopen](#)
- [State agency: More than 11,000 Plano residents try to claim unemployment benefits, but 1 in 5 claimants ineligible](#)



“The majority of our clients—maybe, I would say, 80%—are people that we are paying for,” Rehman said.

The group has made roughly 170 runs since being started in mid-March and has donated over 2,500 hundred pounds of food, enough to feed 1,600 people, according to Rehman. A form is available online for those [in need of groceries](#) and those who would [like to volunteer](#).

On April 29, in partnership with Plano-based restaurant In-Fretta Pizza, the group gave out 1,500 hot meals. On May 1, it will help [give out 5,000 meals](#) made by In-Fretta.

This giving by In-Fretta is part of owner Ram Mehta’s #EveryoneEatz movement, which began before the pandemic but has been given new meaning during, [as previously reported](#) by *Community Impact Newspaper*.

The April 29 event was originally intended to include on-the-spot testing for COVID-19, but wind levels were too high for drive-thru tests. Instead, WellHealth of Frisco gave out coupons for free testing at the Frisco location at a later date.

Dental kits were also provided by McKinney-based practice Vital Dental to anyone who stopped by the event. The family and cosmetic dentistry group had previously donated gloves and other protective gear to hospitals, but this was its first time giving out kits, said Dr. Asad Ahsan, DDS.

While the event took place in Allen, Rehman said it was advertised around Collin County and that anyone who comes to these types of events is welcome, regardless of residence.

“Whoever you are—I mean, if you're out here, you're obviously needing food, so we're not going to look at anything like that,” Rehman said.



This outlook on giving applies to all events and services provided by the Allen-Plano grocery group, Rehman said.

Correction: A previous version of this article incorrectly spelled the #EveryoneEatz hashtag.

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

VITAL DENTAL

WELLHEALTH FRISCO

IN-FRETTA PIZZA

ALLEN-PLANO COMMUNITY GROCERY SUPPLY AND SUPPORT FOR THE MOST VULNERABLE

COLLIN COUNTY

COLLIN COUNTY COMMUNITY

FRISCO COMMUNITY

FRISCO

MCKINNEY COMMUNITY

MCKINNEY

ALLEN

ALLEN COMMUNITY

PLANO COMMUNITY

PLANO DINING

MCKINNEY BUSINESS



SHARE TO FACEBOOK



SHARE TO TWITTER



SHARE VIA EMAIL



By **Liesbeth Powers** 

Liesbeth graduated from Baylor University with a degree in new media journalism in December 2018. She gained her newspaper experience as a staff writer and multimedia editor at her campus paper, The Baylor Lariat. Liesbeth joined the Community Impact team in August 2019, where she reports on all things Plano, including education and transportation.



0 Comments

Sort by Oldest ↕



Add a comment...

 Facebook Comments Plugin

MOST RECENT



City of Plano rejects plan for reduced retail at Beacon Square development

The rejected changes included additional live-work units in place of some of the retail stores that had been featured in the original plans.



Jupiter Road crews in Plano continue work on north- and southbound lanes

The project will eventually stretch from 14th Street to the northern city limits.





Richardson shop has 11,000 bicycles on back order and more DFW news

Read the latest Dallas-Fort Worth business and community news.



Tracking COVID-19 in Plano: Number of active cases grows by 22% in first week of August as area hospitalizations continue their decline

Two new Plano coronavirus deaths reported in the last week brought the city's confirmed total to 22 deaths since the start of the pandemic.



Salvation Army expands North Texas grocery service locations to include school supplies, protective equipment

Backpacks filled with school supplies, personal protective equipment, financial assistance resources and U.S. Census forms will be available at the 13 existing locations.



Trails system in Frisco expands and more DFW-area news

Read the latest business and community news from the DFW area.



Find out where to get a 15-minute COVID-19 test in Austin, Dallas-Fort Worth metros

Rapid nasal swab antigen tests are recommended as options for individuals who were potentially exposed to a confirmed positive





Rapid nasal swab antigen tests are recommended as options for individuals who were potentially exposed to a confirmed positive carrier, as well as for people traveling, returning to work or undergoing a medical procedure.



Texas allows limited visitations to nursing homes, long-term care facilities

Facilities that meet the requirements will allow limited visitations, but you still will not be able to hug or kiss your loved one.



Richardson council votes for waiver of tax law, no comprehensive exams for 2020-21 in Plano ISD: Top news from DFW

Read the most popular DFW-area news from this week.



Mallow Box to open second location at Plano's Legacy Hall

The gourmet marshmallow dessert stall will offer s'mores, skewers, toasts, bowls and specialty shakes.



SweetStop bakery holds grand opening in Richardson and more DFW-area news

Read the latest business and community news from the Dallas-Fort Worth area.





City repeals Plano Tomorrow plan after years of contentious debate on apartments

The city of Plano has repealed the Plano Tomorrow comprehensive development plan, the result of nearly a half decade of political and legal conflict over the document's provisions on development and density.

COMPANY INFO

ADVERTISE

NEWSLETTER

CIRCULATION

CAREERS

CATEGORIES



[TERMS OF SERVICE](#) | [PRIVACY POLICY](#) | [FEEDBACK](#) |

© 2005-2020 Community Impact Newspaper Co. All rights reserved.

