Message from DwD Leadership

What a year it was in 2020! We started Delivering with Dignity in the midst of a global pandemic because we saw an unmet need that required a solution. We simply wanted to support some small businesses that were impacted and provide much needed nutritional support for those families in crisis and at risk for COVID-19 infection. We have been thrilled with the partnerships that have formed to make this program a success. We certainly could not do it without the leadership of the Dragon Kim Foundation, 211OC and the partnership of the nonprofit service providers and restaurant partners. We are also grateful for the generosity of so many donors who understand the significance of what we are doing. Of course, without amazing volunteer Food Heroes, the food would not get to the individuals and families relying on our service. Together we are a beacon of hope for the families facing unprecedented hardship. Thank you for being on this journey with us.

TO VOLUNTEER OR DONATE TO DELIVERING WITH DIGNITY GO TO WWW.DELIVERINGWITHDIGNITYOC.ORG
Many of you may have recently seen the Delivering with Dignity PSA that was generously sponsored by Cox. If you haven’t, take a look by clicking here.

We are grateful to have Chris Hernandez volunteer his time to create the very professionally done PSA to tell our story. Chris is a graduate of Azusa Pacific University with a Bachelor’s degree in Communication Studies. He has had various experience in the nonprofit world including serving as a professional mediator and facilitator. He is currently the Outreach Marketing Coordinator for 2IIOC.

Prior to donating his expertise to Delivering with Dignity, Chris volunteered as a food hero. With his background in filmmaking and marketing from previous non-profit roles, Chris was excited when the Delivering with Dignity team asked if he could help create a television PSA. Working with COX Communications, PR guru Dan Pittman, and restaurateur Teresa Razo, Chris was able to film, edit, and submit a video PSA for the program that was aired on primetime over 330 times in December and is continuing for the month of February. Thanks to COX’s generosity, Chris will be working on a second PSA that will be aired later this month.

Thank you Chris for donating your time and talent to Delivering with Dignity!
Featured:
Delivering with Dignity OC Helps Keep Jeff Hull Nourished

Costa Mesa, California resident Jeff Hull, who is a client of nonprofit Project Independence, looks forward to receiving meals from Delivering with Dignity Orange County.

“I look forward to hearing their knock on my door every Friday,” Jeff enthusiastically observes. “The food is really fun. I am never sure what they will bring, but it’s always something really good. My neighbor got COVID, which really scared me. I am nervous going out to the store now. This food makes me feel safer.”

The mission of Delivering with Dignity Orange County perfectly dovetails with that of Project Independence, which has a 40 plus year history of service and stability in Orange County. The organization provides a lifeline to adults with developmental disabilities, who are now at even greatest risk because of the pandemic. Many of Jeff’s fellow Project Independence clients have also received meals.

Dignity Really Matters

“I just received the Delivering with Dignity meal food and wow I was left speechless. Having Covid is extremely difficult and making sure my kids had food every day was a struggle. The food you guys brought allowed us to not worry where our food will come from. It’s delicious quality food and I’m just in awe. Thanks again and happy holidays!” - DwD Client

“COVID is spreading more than any time we've seen during the past year in our community, and we are extremely thankful that we can partner with you all to take a bit of the fear and stress of the virus off the shoulders of this community.” - DwD Nonprofit Partner

“I was attempting to drop of some great food from @BuenoKitchen to a recipient of @deliveringwdignityoc today but they did not answer the door to the motel room so I gave them a call. The lady on the phone said, 'Oh, I'm not there any more. I was able to get my own place where I can cook my own food now! I will not need the service any more. Thank you so much for your help.' Best news I heard all day!” - DwD Volunteer
January and February are generally slow months for restaurants. Add a pandemic and things get even harder! One of the purpose of Delivering with Dignity is to be able to help support our restaurant partners who have not only been generous with us but were already long time pillars of civic leadership in the community. If and when possible, we ask that you help support these amazing restaurants with your patronage. The owners and the staff have huge hearts and they pour it into their delicious food. You can taste the love!

On the Menu

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Delivering with Dignity O.C. asks residents to support restaurants feeding at-risk

Delivering with Dignity — a collaboration among Orange County restaurants, nonprofit organizations, donors and volunteers that has so far delivered nearly 55,000 free meals residents in need during the pandemic — is asking for the public’s help.

Since June, eight local restaurateurs have opened their hearts and their kitchens, preparing free meals to the county’s neediest families and residents, many of whom have been shut in during the COVID-19 pandemic. But since stay-at-home orders issued last month effectively ended outdoor dining, many of the restaurants who’ve participated in Delivering with Dignity Orange County are now finding their own livelihoods at risk.

So, to help their business partners, organizers of the effort are holding a series of raffle drawings with $50 restaurant gift cards for diners who visit participating restaurants throughout January and February.

Diners can post a photo of their restaurant receipts to their Facebook or Instagram accounts and tag Delivering with Dignity or email the image to dwd@dragonkimfoundation.org.

Raffles will be conducted each week, and winners will be notified directly. Participating restaurants are Cambalache, Fountain Valley; Taco Mesa, Costa Mesa; the Recess Room, Fountain Valley; Taco Rosa, Newport Beach; Toast Kitchen + Bakery, Costa Mesa; Villa Roma, Laguna Hills; WaSa Sushi & Teppan, Newport Beach; and SaltwaterCatering, Irvine.

For more information, visit deliveringwithdignityoc.org. To learn about qualifying for meal delivery in Orange County, call 2-1-1, visit 211OC.org or text your ZIP code to 898211. Those interested in volunteering can visit volunteers.oneoc.org/opportunity and sign up to deliver meals.
Gratitude

Delivering with Dignity has been a project of the heart for all involved. As such we have been able to keep the operating cost to almost zero due to in-kind donations from everyone involved. All donations thus far have gone to providing food for those in need during this pandemic and has served as a lifeline for our restaurant partners. Without generous donors, we would not be able to continue serving the ever increasing demand. We want to share a special thank you to the following donors who made significant gifts that allowed us to provide food for families through the holidays!

Joan Payden
Michael Cupps
Susan Matijasevic
Follow us and stay connected

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