



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Carbondale Emergency Task Force (CETF) Seeks Volunteers to Support Seniors and Self-Quarantining Individuals

CARBONDALE, Colo. (April 1, 2020) – The Carbondale Emergency Task Force (CETF) today launches a drive to recruit volunteers to support the town’s seniors and growing number of self-quarantining individuals during the COVID-19 pandemic crisis.

The CETF, which was launched by the Town of Carbondale a week ago in response to the COVID-19 global pandemic crisis, is coordinating volunteer operations, which now includes a partnership with **Valley Meals and More**, an existing nonprofit that supports seniors in the community. The CETF seeks to recruit volunteers to work directly under Valley Meals and More so that operations can expand during the crisis.

Additionally, the CETF is promoting the service operated by **Carbondale Rec Center** staff, who are providing similar errands and care calls.

The CETF is providing the following information for potential volunteers and for those in need of urgent help:

1. For Volunteers

The CETF is recruiting and managing volunteers who are healthy and able to provide assistance in three categories:

1. **Runners** – individuals who make deliveries and other errands for the high-risk population to ensure that they have essential goods and stay safe.
2. **Care Callers** – volunteers who place phone calls to high-risk individuals to check on their wellbeing, or just to say hello.
3. **Specialists** – others who are able to contribute specific skills to one or more of the Task Force’s “lines of effort.”

Community members interested in providing volunteer support should complete the volunteer [questionnaire](#) through the CETF webpage.

2. For Those in Need of Help

The CETF is directing those in need to the following services:

Valley Meals and More, a non-profit organization offering volunteer grocery and prescription pickup and care calls for seniors and high-risk individuals. Services available include volunteer

grocery/prescription pickup and care calls (volunteer outreach by phone to individuals who might be feeling alone during this time).

To request help, individuals can either complete the [assistance request form](#), available at the CETF webpage, or contact Valley Meals and More director, Mary Kenyon, at 970-274-2632 or mary@valleymealsandmore.com.

The Town of Carbondale Rec Center offers the following services to quarantined, isolated and high-risk residents:

- Assistance in obtaining necessary medications
- Meal delivery from take-out or other senior meal services that are offering pick-up locations
- Dog walking
- Emotional support
- Information about other community health organizations and volunteer opportunities

Those in need can call the Rec Center's hotline, 970-510-1292, and leave a detailed voice message. Calls will be forwarded to recreation center staff for quick response.

The Town of Carbondale has established the **Carbondale Emergency Task Force (CETF)**, a collective group of volunteer and organizational expertise from across the community that will provide support and guidance to the town in key areas of the potential impact from the COVID-19 global pandemic public health crisis. The community is encouraged to visit the CETF webpage and the English and Spanish language CEFT Facebook pages for all public announcements and updates from the task force, including news alerts and direction on public health from the state and county:

<https://www.carbondalegov.org/government/emergency/>

<https://www.facebook.com/CarbondaleETF>

<https://www.facebook.com/Grupo-de-Trabajo-de-Emergencia-de-Carbondale>

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