

March 16, 2020

**Rise Again Outreach Volunteers and those we serve,**

As a Holy Spirit directed, faith-based organization we have decided to respond to COVID-19 in a manner that allows us to adhere to the recommendations of the authorities that God has put in charge. With the announcement of the National Emergency and the State Emergency, effective immediately we will suspend operations until at least April 3rd and reassess the situation then.

Our Board of Directors and Ministry Directors met tonight via video call and determined this was the best course of action. While we desire to serve those in need, we need to follow the advice of our government officials and do our part as an organization to prevent the continue spread of the virus. We are not reacting out of fear but out of an abundance of caution to curtail the spread of the virus and to keep our volunteers and those we serve safe.

We also believe in our God, who is always with us and works what is evil for good. We have an opportunity to share the Gospel story and why we are not going to respond out of fear, but out of an abundance of caution. Here are a few scriptures that I hope will calm your fear if you have it and remind us of the God we serve.

*"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." ~ Isaiah 41:10*

*"When I am afraid, I put my trust in you." ~ Psalm 56:3*

*"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." ~ Philippians 4:6-7*

On behalf our Ministry Directors, Office Staff, and Board of Directors there is no way to appropriately thank you for all that you do for Rise Again Outreach. Our desire is to keep you safe and healthy, and we will take further action if needed. Please stay safe and be smart; be joyful and unafraid. *"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." ~ Joshua 1:9*

In Christ Love for you and for those we serve,

Bob Magan

President