



December 2020



Many Hands Make Impactful Work

The year 2020 has tested the bonds of our families and communities in uniquely challenging ways. COVID turned our lives upside down and forced us to find creative new approaches to serve a growing number of our neighbors who are struggling financially, physically and emotionally. Despite all the obstacles the pandemic presented, INMED USA never missed a beat in helping families bridge the gaps for today and build bridges to self-reliance in the future. And at every step of the way, generous neighbors have lent a helping hand to provide the resources and encouragement necessary for us to get through this crisis together. As we come to close this year, we would like to share and celebrate the work of some of these selfless volunteers.



Giving Thanks for Leesburg PD

It wouldn't be Thanksgiving at INMED USA without our faithful friends at the Leesburg Police Department. For the last 14 years, volunteers from LPD have served Thanksgiving dinner to INMED families. This year was no exception.



With a little creativity and a lot of help from our community volunteers, our team at INMED USA prepared Thanksgiving meals to go, with drive-through distribution in the parking lot of St. James Episcopal Church in Leesburg. Special thanks to Deli South for loaning us its kitchen for meal prep and Grace to Go, a ministry of St. James.

Click the LPD icon to give them a shout-out on Facebook!

Christmas Dinner COVID Style

For far too many families in our community, Christmas 2020 will be sparse--or even nonexistent. But thanks to the Women's Ministry of Sterling United Methodist Church, INMED USA families will not only have gifts but a special holiday meal with a twist. While the church has hosted an annual Christmas dinner party for several years, this month's Christmas dinner took the form of a sumptuous box of ingredients for a COVID-safe prepare-at-home meal distributed via a drive-through at our Opportunity Center in Sterling. We are so thankful for the creativity and determination of these wonderful women and men to bring joy to families in need. Click the logo to learn more about Sterling UMC.



P.A.S.T.A. Pitches In

P.A.S.T.A. (short for Peers and Students Taking Action) lives up to its name in every way. This group of dedicated high school students has been volunteering for INMED USA for several years and has been undaunted by the pandemic. As part of their "Do Good Monday" initiative, the students have donated take-home learning kits for our academic enrichment program for elementary school children. These creative kits include National Geographic magazine activity packets and personalized kits for kids who are



celebrating a birthday. Click their logo to visit their Facebook page.

Teens Overcome "Ruff" Times with the help of Summit Dogs

One of the brightest spots of this year have been our visits with the Summit Therapy dogs. During our after-school and teen hangout programs, Michelle Robinson of Summit Therapy brought her sweet pups to visit our kids and teach them about the training and handling of therapy dogs.

Michelle and the pups never failed to put smiles on everyone's faces and have been a source of joy during an especially difficult year.

Click the Summit Dog logo to learn more about and support this awesome organization.



One Sparrow Helps Teens Develop Financial Literacy

One Sparrow is a new INMED volunteer group that is making a big impact on teens who attend "The Hangout" weekly activity nights at our Opportunity Center in Sterling. Their mission is to give young people the tools to be financially responsible with the money they earn. Using pretend dollars, the volunteers are teaching our teens the ins and outs of saving and spending money. Because of One Sparrow, our youth have the financial literacy to make



wise fiscal decisions, now and in the future —just one of many volunteer services of this great organization.

Click One Sparrow's logo to learn more about this volunteer group.

These are just a few examples of the many generous people who have volunteered their time and resources to INMED USA's mission of building pathways for vulnerable children and families to achieve well-being and self-reliance. If you would like to join our team of amazing volunteers, we would love to welcome you to the INMED USA family. Just **CLICK HERE!**

Special thanks to INMED USA volunteer Rachel Luckenbaugh for compiling the great content for this newsletter!



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