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*"I hope Chore never goes away because I'm not sure I could remain in my home."  
"Thanks for being there and a trusted source of assistance for local residents."*

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April 17, 2020

Dear Friends,

A few weeks ago you received our Save the Date for our Annual Garden Party. At that time, we were all looking forward to a summer full of parties and good times with friends and family. Since then our world has changed. We hope that you and your families are safe and healthy. With the COVID-19 crisis that we are in we have found ourselves making some difficult decisions.

**First** - We cannot hold our Garden Party in such uncertain times where it is not safe for groups of people to come together. However, soon we will be bringing you a special treat of "A Stroll Down Memory Lane", a booklet showcasing our past gardens, so you will be able to see these gardens at your leisure as often as you like.

**Second** - It has been necessary to pull back our services to our clients temporarily. What does that mean? Without widespread testing, it is not safe for our staff to go in client's homes to do routine cleaning. It is not safe for our staff and it is not safe for our very vulnerable clients. **Fortunately, we have been able to work out ways to provide groceries to clients in need, and some of our workers are providing yard cleanup which gives our clients a ray of sunshine and hope.**

What does this mean to our clients and staff?

For clients, staff are contacting clients on a regular basis just to touch base with them to assure that they are safe. Our clients look forward to the workers' visits and we want to continue that relationship. Clients also can contact the office and Pat and Jane return their calls to assess their needs.

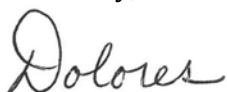
For staff, Chore Service is continuing to pay them as though they were working their usual week, as we realize how important they are to Chore and our mission. This is something that all staff, and clients, have been very appreciative of, and we are glad that we can continue this for this time. How can we do this you ask?

Five years ago, we wrote you a letter telling you that Chore Service was having difficulties financially and we were taking steps to stabilize our finances. Thankfully, we did and we are on a firm financial footing to pay our staff while they are out on leave. We feel that this is crucial to do. Unfortunately, while staff are out on leave, we cannot bill for services through our grant, thus depleting our cash reserves. For this reason, canceling our primary fundraiser, the Garden Party, is quite a hardship. We are working on a plan to replace our annual gathering, and we will be back in touch soon!

Please do contact us if you have any questions or concerns at (860) 435-9177.

Please do practice physical distancing, wash your hands often, and remain healthy!

Sincerely,



Dolores Perotti  
Board President



Patricia Wright  
Executive Director



*Chore Service*