



# Monroe County United Ministries

Dear MCUM constituents,

In order to remain compliant with requirements and recommendations put forth to keep our community safe as we work together to prevent and minimize the spread of COVID-19, our leadership staff, with support from our Board of Directors have made the difficult decision to temporarily close both of our Compass Early Learning Centers, effective Wednesday, March 18. I am deeply sorry for the stress, financial burden, and inconvenience this will cause our families and staff.

In line with our mission to prevent barriers to employment and help people meet their basic needs, MCUM's food pantry remains open for limited hours. A small but mighty staff of three people currently remains and we are currently distributing pre-bagged grocery sets while food is available and taking protective measures to keep ourselves and our pantry clients safe.

We will begin plans for the long term, eventually. However, in the short term I know that in shutting our Compass doors we have endangered families' financial statuses - the very ones we were established to protect. I have established a MCUM Relief Fund to help with things like securing independent childcare for families without options, purchasing food items to keep our pantry going, and helping take care of our community during this difficult time. **If you have the means to support MCUM during this time, please donate online at [www.mcum.org](http://www.mcum.org).**

We will continue to review the CDC Guidance for Administrators online resource, as well as collaborate with other local agencies. I appreciate your support, patience, and flexibility as we navigate uncharted territory here.

Best,

**Katie**

[Katie Broadfoot, MPA](#)  
Executive Director

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