



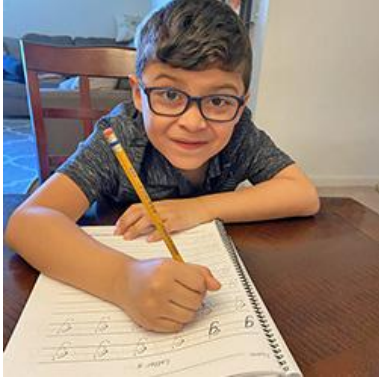
## How We're Adapting to Serve Families During COVID-19

Helping at-risk children and families achieve well-being and self-reliance has always been our mission, but it certainly has intensified during the coronavirus pandemic. Facing unemployment and empty store shelves, vulnerable families need our support more than ever to obtain the basic essentials for survival. Thanks to our community partners, we've seen a steady stream of donations—from diapers and formula to personal hygiene products and nonperishable food that we're offering for curbside pickup at our Opportunity Center.

Ensuring our after-school students don't fall further behind the achievement curve, coordinator Yahaira Hanon has been compiling home learning kits, individually personalized for our students. These creative kits are especially important for children who don't yet have access to a home computer or wifi from Loudoun County Public Schools. Soon, we'll be rolling out a virtual platform to continue our STEM-enrichment education through the end of the school year.

None of these activities would be possible without the generosity and compassion of our incredible community partners, whose ranks are growing by the day. We're especially grateful for [Loudoun Hunger Relief](#), [NOVA Diaper Bank](#), [Sterling Women](#), [The Coder School of Ashburn](#), [Mobile Hope](#), [the Tin Cup Fund](#), [St. Gabriel's Church](#) and [It Takes a Village, Baby](#), among many individual donors who are making sure families in need don't fall through the cracks.

**CLICK HERE** to go to our COVID-19 Resource Page for important notices, give-aways, tips and activities for staying healthy during community lock-downs.



One of our after-school kids hard at work on his take-home lessons.



The NOVA Diaper Bank donates hygiene kits while social distancing.



After-school coordinator Yahaira Hanon with learning kits for pickup.

## Building Healthy Families Through Prevention



April is Child Abuse Prevention Month, and our Healthy Families Loudoun program could not be more critical to our community. Although the risk to children's physical health from the coronavirus pandemic appears to be low, the risk of experiencing abuse and neglect in times of extreme stress and uncertainty is actually quite high.

School and workplace closings can increase stress in parents' lives, resulting from loss of income due to lack of paid leave; an unexpected or irregular need for child care; and food insecurity when school meal programs become unavailable.

Social distancing also has unintended consequences, including isolation when social and emotional connection and support are protective of mental health and positive discipline strategies.

That's why our Healthy Families Loudoun team is working every day to ensure healthy, thriving children and families via regular virtual home visits and serving as a vital conduit to free community resources for vulnerable families like Aurora's, who is facing reduced work hours and food insecurity during the coronavirus pandemic.

Aurora expressed her gratitude to her INMED family support specialist Nancy Patricia Ordonez (pictured above) for helping her to understand the facts about the coronavirus, its symptoms and community resources available to help in case of infection. She's also thankful for INMED's ongoing supply of food and basic essentials. "For my family, it's like an extra special gift to have free food, because it allows us to save money to cover other basic needs, such as rent and utilities," she says.

If you would like to help a family like Aurora's achieve resilience and self-reliance, please [CLICK HERE](#).

## Our Talented Volunteers ROCK!

Special thanks to Opportunity Center volunteer Melanie Worrall for making fabric face masks for our vulnerable families. It is inspiring to see how people are using their talents to help our neighbors in need. Do you have a talent or resource to share? Please [CLICK HERE](#) to contact our COVID-19 resource coordinator, Rosa Tobar.



# Partner Spotlight: The Coder School of Ashburn



Our STEM-enrichment programs would not be possible without partners like The Coder School of Ashburn. For the past year, TCSA volunteers, such as Sanjitha Prabakaran (pictured here), have been working with our after-school students weekly to introduce them to a broad array of coding languages—from Scratch and Python to Javascript, Java and much more.

Unfortunately, many of our students don't have access to a computer or wifi at home.

To help our kids who can't participate in distance learning during the quarantine, The Coder School has launched a special fundraising campaign. For every new online sign-up for its code coaching programs during the COVID-19 crisis, The Coder School is donating \$50 to INMED to provide online resources to our after-school kids who lack them at home. We are truly grateful to owner Chad Hamel for supporting us in this way.

[CLICK HERE](#) to email The Coder School for more details.

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