



## Our Response to the Health Crisis

This is a difficult time for all of us and we hope you are taking care of yourself, physically and mentally. In this unprecedented health crisis, what keeps us going is the compassion and the willingness of our community to help, along with the dedication of our staff who are working harder than ever to care for the women.

**We want to reiterate that the wellbeing, health, and safety of The Sophia Way community is our top priority.** We are carefully monitoring the situation and following guidance from the Washington Department of Health, Public Health - Seattle & King County, and the CDC.

More than 75 percent of the women in our shelters fall into a high-risk category for the virus. Currently, we have no confirmed cases. As the situation continues to evolve, we are actively taking steps and doing everything we can to ensure our clients, staff, and volunteers are cared for and protected.

### Our approach

- *Handwashing:* All staff, clients, volunteers, and other visitors must wash their hands thoroughly when they enter the shelter
- *Cleaning:* Increase in frequency of cleaning of the day center and shelters
- *Health check:* Daily health assessment and a temperature check of all clients, staff, and volunteers
- *Interactions:* Phone, conference, or video calls in lieu of in-person meetings and permitting work from home in alignment with organization needs
- *Updates:* Regular sharing of information as it becomes available with our staff and clients; reviewing and updating response protocols as necessary

### Our response to symptoms

If a client presents with any symptoms of the virus (coughing, shortness of breath, fatigue, temperature), we will:

- provide as much isolation and care as possible (areas have been identified at each shelter)
- call the COVID-19 King County call center for guidance and instructions
- thoroughly clean and disinfect the shelter

If a member of our staff, or a volunteer, present with symptoms, they will be asked to return home and contact their physician or the King County call center.

### You Can Help

**YOUR support means that women have access to shelter and nourishment.  
We are grateful and honored by your commitment.**



### Meals

It is vital to nourish our clients at this time. Your donation of meals will help them stay healthy and strong.

[Signup](#) for meals in April.

We have made arrangements for donors to leave meals at the door of the shelters for those not wishing to enter the buildings.

If preparing a meal is not an option, [donations](#) to help purchase meals are appreciated. \$1,000 covers all the meals for a day. ([Click](#) for more options).



### In-kind donations

We have a shortage of many critically needed items, especially cleaning supplies, gloves, and hand sanitizers. [Here is a full list of needed items.](#)

While we are aware that there is a county-wide shortage of many of these items, if you find them online or at a store, please consider donating them.

*Drop-off ( 10 AM – 6 PM)*  
3032 Bellevue Way NE  
Bellevue, WA 98004  
(Behind St. Luke's Lutheran Church)



### Emergency Fund

Your donation to the [Emergency Fund](#) will help women during these uncertain times.

The Sophia Way is providing 24/7 services during this crisis, covering a 5.5 hour time period when women would utilize public spaces, like libraries, that are now closed.

The financial impact for The Sophia Way to be open an additional 5.5 hours is approximately \$700 a day.

We would love to hear from you on what else you can do to support the women in this unprecedented health crisis. [Send us an email](#) with your thoughts.

With wishes for good health,

Alisa Chatinsky  
Executive Director

*P.S. Take care and keep safe - please follow the guidelines from the [County](#) and [State](#).*

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**Thank you for supporting our mission to end homelessness for women in our community.**

**I/We Support the Emergency Fund for Women**

**GIVE**

**NOURISH**

**VOLUNTEER**

# Read All Our Updates

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## **Our Office**

The Sophia Way  
11061 NE 2nd Street  
Suite 223  
Bellevue, WA 98004  
Ph: 425.463.6285  
Email: [info@sophiaway.org](mailto:info@sophiaway.org)  
9 AM to 5 PM

## **Day Center**

3032 Bellevue Way NE  
Bellevue, WA 98004  
(behind St. Luke's Lutheran  
Church)  
Ph: 425.896.7385  
Bus route: 249  
7:15 AM to 7 PM

## **Emergency Shelter**

***(Until May 2020)***  
St. Luke's Lutheran Church  
3030 Bellevue Way NE  
Bellevue, WA 98004  
Ph: 425.463.6254  
Bus route: 249  
7 PM to 7:15 AM

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<https://sophiaway.org/>