

CarePortal + COVID-19

Serve through CarePortal:

We are grateful to be able to serve the community and our church during this season of Covid-19. One of the best ways to do that is through CarePortal! CarePortal requests are made by both DHS and Campus Pastors on behalf of families in crisis to allow families to serve better, protect, and love on the kids in their homes, all vetted by DHS or your Campus Pastor. We have been blown away by our church's response to CarePortal and how you have loved families in crisis for months and are eager to see how the Lord is going to continue to use CarePortal as a significant ministry tool in this season.

Please refer to the Best Practice Guide for general guidelines.

What we love most about CarePortal is the personal touch and ability to minister to families. We know that a front door drop off and a wave through a window may be what families prefer – but we also know that the Lord is big and will help us minister and make a connection when the connection seems impossible! We don't want to lose that connection in this season so here are a few tips, tricks, and ideas for you to use during Covid-19:

- Know that when something is categorized "emergency," this is a request that needs to be filled within 24 hours!
- Prayerfully think through scripture that the Lord wants you to encourage the family with, write that down and give it to them! Encourage them with truths to stand on in this season!
- Write a prayer out for the family that they can read for the next few weeks.
- Bring a dollar store or dollar section activity for the kids in the home! Or a box of brownies for the family to make!
- If you're buying gift cards – remember the small, local businesses when you're purchasing those!
- Add the adults on Facebook and invite them to BattleCreeks Facebook pages, so they can engage in the content we are putting out.
- Text them regularly to encourage, pray with, become a friend, and invite to church when we start meeting in person!
- If the family attends BattleCreek church and are not in a Community Group, invite them to yours!
- View this season as a window to become a friend or deepen a friendship!
- Bring your kids along in how you are serving!

- Invite your kids to draw a picture, write a card, write a prayer, pick out a dollar section activity or sweet treat for the kids in the home you are serving. Invite your kids to be creative and to think through ways to help and love on a friend!
 - Pray for the family with your kids!
 - Find scripture together as a family!
- **Remember:** don't post any photos of the kids or family without parent's permission!