## CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)





Audience: CEOs, Chief Development Officers, and Integrity and Compliance Officers

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COVID-19 Response Team Owner: Planning

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## Donations from the Community During COVID-19

System Office has recently received inquiries from number of Regional Health Ministries regarding our acceptance policies of gift cards and food donations to hospital staff from the community during this time.

Per Trinity Health's existing policy, individual hospital staff members are not permitted to directly accept gifts from patients or patient families.

In an effort to help hospital staff members during this time, some organizations have recently announced programs for delivering gift cards, care packages or restaurant-prepared/pre-packaged food deliveries directly to hospital departments, such as the example outlined in the attached press release.

## During this time of challenging working hours and extraordinary efforts from our clinical teams, these types of initiatives are in alignment with our policies and are accepted forms of in-kind donations, as they are not direct patient-to-colleague gifts.

Gift cards, care packages or food deliveries donated by organizations may be given to colleagues on a random basis, not based on an individual's level of performance. There is no conflict of interest and they are not considered taxable compensation.

Last month, we shared guidance for posting donation information on Health Ministry COVID-19 website pages. Attached is a new template for adding food donation information to those pages. Cassandra Snyder of the System Office Marketing team will send specific website location and design guidance to your ministry's digital marketing team on Tuesday, April 14 to implement these updates. Chief Development Officers will also receive that information.

As many community members are contacting Health Ministries seeking donation information, many ministries are sharing this information on their social media accounts. See <u>this example</u> on the <u>Trinity Health Of New England LinkedIn page</u>.

If you have any questions about this update, please contact Fran Petonic, Senior Vice President, Philanthropy.