

December 17, 2020

Good morning members,

I'm sorry my letter is late this week; I had a funeral on Monday where we buried my Uncle. You can expect next week's letter to be out on Tuesday the 22nd, as I have a doctor's appointment on Monday. Just to let you know **our office is open** and I will be working on **the 21st, 22nd, and up until noon on the 23rd before Christmas.** If you have any **questions or concerns** with anything **please go through me (Cindy),** as Kate will be taking some time off. If you have any questions for me feel free to reach out to my cell phone or shoot me an email.

As for COVID-19 we are still seeing a rise in cases, and had 70 new deaths as of yesterday. Vaccines will not be ready until the spring, and will be used for the people that really need them. With Christmas just around the corner, I strongly recommend staying home with the family, and avoiding all large gatherings. If you are short on ideas of things to do around the house, here are some options: Throw on a Christmas movie, write a Christmas card, decorate your home, phone a friend, play a boardgame, work on a puzzle, or make Christmas cookies!

If you are not done with your Christmas shopping yet, please be careful when going out to do so. I recommend online shopping like Amazon, or to go early in the morning before the stores get packed. I suggest you go this weekend and avoid shopping the couple days before Christmas as that is when the crowd goes. I am hoping that with the vaccination coming out that we will be able to see a light at the end of the tunnel sooner than later. We will just have to see how people abide by the rules and regulations this holiday, and try our best to do our part. Me and my job coach are currently coming up with a list of resources for you guys, and will be posting them shortly. Here are a couple of them to help get some of you through the Holidays.

Holiday food boxes will be handed out in Milwaukee on Saturday, December 19. "Baskets of Hope" will be a contactless, drive-by event at the African American Women's Center from 10am to 1pm. I have been there before, and can say that they are some really nice people! The Hunger Task Force will be putting out food baskets as well, and there is one in every county. The Salvation Army can provide toys for your kids this Christmas if you are having trouble affording presents. The Humane Society will provide free pet food to those who cannot afford it. \*Do not be ashamed\* to take advantage of these opportunities, they are there for the people who need them!

I myself gave a donation to Feed America which will feed 250 people. If you have the means, please be there for others and do what you can to make it easier for them! I am so thankful that I have a job right now and that I have my head above water. I want you all to know that I care about you, and will continue to do all I can to help you out. Please stay tuned and I will have more resources for you shortly.

I wish you all a happy day, and a blessed week.

Sincerely,

Cindy Bentley
Executive Director
People First Wisconsin