



## Ramsey County Sheriff's Office

Bob Fletcher, Sheriff

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# Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 1, 2020

## **Sheriff's Office Forms COVID "Help Team"**

***Sheriff's Office Help Team will assist those in the community who are most at risk and vulnerable during this time***

Saint Paul, Minnesota: Today, the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office announced the formation of the COVID "Help Team." For the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic the Help Team will assist those in the community who are most at risk and vulnerable during this time. The Help Team serves anyone in need in Ramsey County who requires assistance or support as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Coronavirus has affected all of us," said Sheriff Bob Fletcher. "Times like this can bring a lot of uncertainty and leave people wondering where to turn for help. Our Help Team will help fill that void."

The Help Team, led by Undersheriff Bill Finney and Inspector Chy Nou Lee, is made up of 15 deputy and civilian employees, who will respond to needs that are not typically seen as police calls for service. In addition to helping individuals, they will support the efforts of government and community organizations.

Some functions performed by the Help Team include the pick-up and delivery of prescription medication, pre-paid food, and groceries; delivery of food, medication, and other essentials that have been donated; coordination of the collection of donated items based on current

community needs; and, provide referrals, including social services, financial assistance, medical assistance, mental health, and others.

People will be able to call, text, or email for assistance from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm Monday through Friday, and from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm on Saturday and Sunday. The phone number 651-448-3874 (call or text) and the email address is [HelpTeam@co.ramsey.mn.us](mailto:HelpTeam@co.ramsey.mn.us). Please note this is not a replacement to 9-1-1; always call 9-1-1 for emergencies or when immediate law enforcement services are needed.

The Help Team supplements the services already provided by Ramsey County, which remains open and continues to provide services. Please visit [www.ramseycounty.us/coronavirus](http://www.ramseycounty.us/coronavirus) for more information.

For more information, please contact Roy Magnuson (651-403-9738, [roy.magnuson@co.ramsey.mn.us](mailto:roy.magnuson@co.ramsey.mn.us)).

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