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VIVALON HITS COVID-19 RESPONSE MILESTONE: HALF-MILLION SERVICES PROVIDED TO MARIN COUNTY RESIDENTS

Vivalon's Pandemic Response Services Include Meals, Transportation, Vaccination Appointments, and Other Essential Assistance for Marin's High-Risk Residents

San Rafael, Calif. (June 3, 2021) – [Vivalon](http://www.vivalon.org), a San Rafael-based nonprofit that promotes the independence, well-being and quality of life for older adults and people living with disabilities, today announced that its COVID-19 pandemic response operation has resulted in over 500,000 services provided to Marin County's highest risk residents. Since the start of Marin County's COVID-19 shelter-in-place order in March of 2020, Vivalon has expanded existing services and created new pandemic-related programs to better assist older adults, individuals with disabilities, people experiencing homelessness, low-income families and individuals with other access and functional needs in Marin County.



Vivalon provided over 500,000 services to help Marin County residents impacted by COVID-19 pandemic

Vivalon's new pandemic-related services include a phone check-in program, social phone and in-person visiting programs, distribution of personal protective equipment (PPE), and the creation and distribution of face coverings and activity packets. In partnership with Marin Health and Human Services, Vivalon created a new call center to aid in vaccine registration and transportation, led the county grocery delivery program, and led intake for the Great Plates Program. Additionally, Vivalon enhanced its transportation services, expanded its food assistance and home delivered meals programs to serve the unprecedented

number of people in Marin County in need of food during the pandemic, and hosted hundreds of virtual classes and events by video and phone to help thousands of older adults stay active and connected.

"When Vivalon had to temporarily close the doors of the Healthy Aging Center last March, our staff pulled together to find new and creative ways of continuing our essential work," said Anne Grey, Vivalon CEO. "We are grateful to our staff and our volunteers, who went above and beyond on countless occasions to ensure that nobody in the community went hungry, that nobody felt alone, and that older adults in the community had opportunities for engagement and connection while sheltering in place. We are grateful to our many community partners who worked with us to create new programs so that we could reach more people in need. And we are grateful to our donors for their generous financial support, allowing us to focus on providing these critical services. We are inspired by the power of community!"

Vivalon has provided **503,500 services** (as of June 1, 2021) to Marin County's most vulnerable individuals. Since the start of Marin County's COVID-19 shelter-in-place order in March of 2020, Vivalon has provided the following:

- **20,800** calls to assist with vaccine appointments (including 3,000 scheduled appointments)
- **25,500** personal protective equipment (PPE) kits and other essential supplies
- **289,600** meals (including 7,600 bags of groceries)

– more –

- **75,400** rides
- **72,100** social visits and check-in phone calls
- **12,900** face coverings sewn and distributed
- **7,200** class sessions attended

DURING THE PANDEMIC WE HAVE PROVIDED A

HALF MILLION SERVICES

TO OUR COMMUNITY WITH YOUR HELP

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We are inspired by the powerful connection within our community.

“In addition to the quantifiable services we track and report, it’s important to acknowledge the vital social connection that Vivalon’s services provide and the physical and mental benefits of that connection,” said Vivalon’s COO, Nancy Geisse. “Many of our clients tell us that the greatest service we provide is the overall sense of caring which permeates everything we do. Knowing that our clients feel connected and cared for is priceless, because that is what we are really about at Vivalon.”

Vivalon recently announced the phased reopening of its Healthy Aging Center on May 3 and its [Jackson Café](#) on June 14. For more details on Vivalon’s reopening plans, and for information about Vivalon services, programs, and volunteer opportunities, please visit www.vivalon.org. To donate, please visit www.vivalon.org/donate/donate-now.

MEDIA PLEASE NOTE: For questions or to request an interview with Anne Grey or Nancy Geisse, please contact Gus Nodal at (415) 609-3438 or gus.nodal@gmail.com.

ABOUT VIVALON

Vivalon (formerly known as Whistlestop) has served as Marin County’s hub for healthy aging for 67 years. As the largest nonprofit serving older adults and people with disabilities in Marin County, Vivalon helps these valuable community members stay healthy, active, connected and informed with classes, workshops, and activities at its Healthy Aging Center; nutrition services such as home delivered meals through its Meals on Wheels and Vivalon Nourish programs and nutritious meals at its Jackson Café; and a variety of specialized transportation services. In addition to serving the needs of older adults and individuals living with disabilities, Vivalon provides services for other vulnerable populations, such as those with chronic health challenges and low-income families. For more information about Vivalon, please visit www.vivalon.org.

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