



PRESS RELEASE

From Food Pantry to Doorstep: DotHouse Health Works to Overcome Transportation-Related Barriers to Food Access in the COVID-19 Era with Uber

Dorchester, MA - June 10th, 2021 - [DotHouse Health](#), a Federally Qualified Health Center, today announced that they will begin delivering food boxes to food-insecure patients and other vulnerable community members in the Boston area who need access to food the most. DotHouse Health will be able to access community members in need by connecting to delivery people using the Uber platform.

Pediatric residents at Boston Medical Center and DotHouse, along with Boston University medical students, applied to and received special grant funding through Boston Medical Center. This work is supported by [The Joel and Barbara Alpert Endowment for Children of the City](#) and the BMC Pediatrics Center for the Urban Child and Healthy Family to support the 'From Food Pantry to Doorstep' food delivery project at DotHouse.

The ongoing pandemic has significantly exacerbated childhood food insecurity, which had already achieved epidemic proportions before COVID-19 hit. Despite ongoing efforts by public and private actors across Massachusetts, food insecurity persists for many families, partly due to transportation-related barriers to accessing food resources.

“We are excited to get this new service up and running as it will become an essential platform to help deliver food and patient care boxes to our families and community members in-need,” says Michelle Nadow, President and CEO of DotHouse. “We are hopeful that by applying this new service, we will be able to help address the rise of food insecurity issues as a result of the pandemic.”

“Solving for transportation gaps in communities is one important way to address food insecurity and connect people to healthy meals,” says Lauren Steingold Makler, Head of Strategic Initiatives at Uber Health. “We’re humbled to work with DotHouse Health and long-time Uber Health customer Boston Medical Center to support families in the local Boston area who need it most.”

Those who are interested in a one-time home delivery can contact DotHouse Health at **(617) 288-3230** and ask to speak to DotHouse Case Management. Case Managers will ask for basic contact and location information to prepare the delivery. The staff member will then assemble the food package and request a delivery using Uber’s platform, specifying the pick-up/drop-off locations and the family’s phone number to enable delivery tracking.

With Uber’s support, this project aims to address transportation-related food insecurity by delivering up to 400 packages per year filled with food and pandemic preparedness resources from DotHouse directly to family doorsteps.



About DotHouse Health

In 1887, DotHouse Health was established as a settlement house in the Fields Corner neighborhood of Dorchester to serve low-income and immigrant populations. We have evolved over time in response to the changing needs and demographics of the community. In 1972, with the support of area residents, DotHouse obtained federal and state funding to create a health center, providing culturally appropriate, comprehensive, and community-based care to residents regardless of their ability to pay.

Today, with a staff of over 200 employees, the health center connects over 20,000 patients and residents with medical care, social services, and community programs to support the overall good health of our patients and help build a stronger and healthier community. DotHouse is accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations and recognized by the National Committee for Quality Assurance as a Level 3 Patient Centered Medical Home.

Learn more about DotHouse Health at www.DotHouseHealth.org or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), or [Instagram](#).

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