

## JDPC Closing 3/23/2020 - 4/5/2020 (Update 3/30/2020) A Message from Carol



"First Responder."

I think if most of us had to define those words a few months ago, we would say "Police, firefighters, EMT..." Now we broaden it: medical professionals. And broaden it further: those who work at our utilities, pharmacies, grocery stores, correction institutions, gas stations, restaurants, gig workers. And further: anyone who must work outside of their home.

The most difficult part of temporarily closing JDPC is the horrible feeling that we are not there for the people and dogs who need us right now.

For the first time in nearly 17 years—because there is so much unknown about the coronavirus and how it may spread—we, as a business, have been put in a position of trying to understand how to best keep human beings safe...when animal care and safety (which, YES, includes human safety but is not the singular focus) has been our heart and soul, our core.

So if you are one of those heroes, one of those amazing people responding to the front lines every day, we are asking you how we can help, IF we can help.

What is your dog missing with JDPC being closed? Are there needs we could fulfill to help you after long hours at work? As I like to say, our staff is small, but we are mighty.... The 9 of us—Travis, Ali, Susan, Maddy, Jordan, Alyssa, Haley, and Brad and myself—want to use our time and talents to help you. We are trying our best to come up with ideas, to think outside the box, to use our gumption and know-how and creativity to help the dogs and dog lovers we know and love. But what would help most is to hear it from you. How can Just Dogs PlayCare best help and support you and your VSD (Very Special Dog) during this crisis? Please respond to this message however you see it — via email or social media.

Thank you. And as one of my favorite people in the world—Jean S, an early JDPC customer—told me at a challenging point in my life: "Take good care of yourself." Those words of care and kindness have never left me, and at this time they could not be more fundamental.

Love, Carol and Brad