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Dear Neighbors,

There are a lot of possible takeaways from the mayor's decision to end mask requirements for public school students in kindergarten to 12th grade, and to end the indoor vaccine mandate. Your feelings -- about your own habits, about the people in your life, or both -- may be very simple or fairly complex. What it underlines, though, is the continued imperative for communities to care for one another, and for all of us to support those who are more vulnerable in the ways that are meaningful and helpful for them.

Our community will continue abiding by the principles outlined so powerfully by Dean Spade in *Mutual Aid: Building Solidarity During This Crisis (And the Next)* (a quote that some of you may recognize from its place in our trainings):

"Today, many of us live in the most atomized societies in human history, which makes our lives less secure and undermines our ability to organize together to change unjust conditions on a large scale...More and more people report that they have no one they can confide in when they are in trouble...In this context of social isolation and forced dependency on hostile systems, mutual aid—where we choose to help each other out, share things, and put time and resources into caring for the most vulnerable—is a radical act."

## **WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO**

**LAST WEEK BY THE NUMBERS**