

Soup Patrol

The “Soup Patrol” is a very open-ended, flexible initiative to show love and care for neighbors, friends, ward members and non-members that are sick, injured, or just need some emotional support.

The idea emerged in the Green Valley 3rd Ward (St. George, UT) in early 2022 when Rob Dunlap took homemade chicken soup to Ajax Trueblood, suffering from COVID. This gesture had a big impact. A couple of months later, Rob and Ajax announced Soup Patrol in Elders’ Quorum to get more people involved.

This is an unofficial, grass-roots level effort. It is not necessarily attached to, or subordinate to, the Elders’ Quorum, Relief Society, or any organization. Close coordination with other orgs may be desirable, but is not required.

Basics: (but everything is variable)

- Each month, a couple or family (could be a single person) volunteers to take on Soup Patrol duty.
- They prepare or buy enough chicken soup to fill four 2-pint containers (i.e. 2 servings per container). Typically these are tupperware-style plastic containers (round screw-on lids work best).
- The containers are put in the freezer or refrigerator, ready to be given out.
- When the couple/family knows of someone who could use the soup, they take a container to that person. They do not wait to be directed.
- Alternatively, they may hear about a suggested recipient, from the Elders’ Quorum, Relief Society or other source.
- Recipients are just people who could benefit from the soup. There is no geographical or other limit on who can receive the soup. They might be in the ward or out of it. LDS members or not.

When the four containers are given out, the couple/family can choose to make/buy more..

Variations:

- The couple/family may give another type of soup, homemade bread, cookies, or other ‘comfort food’. Its called Soup Patrol, but it doesn’t have to be soup.
- Someone else (such as Ministering Brothers/Sisters) might pick up a container from the Soup Patrol couple/family and deliver it themselves. Or a ministry bro/sis might accompany the delivery.