

FOR RELEASE – March 16, 2020

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## SMITH'S HIRING WORKERS IMMEDIATELY TO HELP WITH RE-STOCKING AMID CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

Smith's Food & Drug Stores today announced that it is hiring workers immediately to deal with increased demand in response to COVID-19. To help keep shelves stocked with fresh, affordable food and essential items, Smith's is working relentlessly to replenish shelves that require more restocking than usual, along with extra deep cleaning to mitigate the risk of the virus spreading.

"We recognize all of our associates are showing up for our customers and communities when they need us most, with open stores and openhearted hospitality," said Aubriana Martindale, Smith's corporate affairs manager. "To help alleviate the increase workload, we are hiring immediately to make sure we have the food and supplies our customers need in a clean, orderly store environment."

To learn more or apply for a position at Smith's please visit [www.smithsfoodanddrug.com](http://www.smithsfoodanddrug.com) or visit a local Smith's grocery store.

### Here are the steps Smith's is taking to protect our customers and associates:

#### *In Our Stores*

- UPDATED DAILY STORE HOURS: 8am-10pm
- Cleaning commonly used areas more often, including cashier stations, self-checkouts, credit card terminals, conveyor belts and food service counters, and cleaning shelves when restocking products.
- Sanitizing restrooms more frequently and restocking with supplies, including soap, paper towels and hand sanitizer.
- Adding extra hand sanitizer at cashier stations, food service counters, and all Pharmacy and Starbucks locations.
- Wiping down shopping carts, baskets and equipment.
- Partnering with our suppliers to replenish high-demand preparedness products.
- Continuing to provide our customers with free disinfectant wipes at our store entrances to sanitize their shopping carts or baskets.
- Following best practices for safe food handling, as always.

#### *For Our Associates*

- Encouraging our associates to closely monitor their health and well-being.
- Providing hand sanitizer and tissues in breakrooms and meeting rooms.
- Asking our associates to stay home if they, or someone in their household, are sick.
- Providing financial support from our Helping Hands fund – a company-sponsored employee assistance fund – to associates who may be directly affected.
- Suspending business air travel for associates through April 15, 2020 and recommending virtual meetings.

#### *For Our Customers*

- Encouraging our customers to follow the [CDC's suggested hygiene practices](#) to reduce the spread of the virus.
- Recommending that our customers also practice safe food handling at home.

At Smith's Food & Drug, a company of The Kroger Co. (NYSE: KR), we are Fresh for Everyone and dedicated to our Purpose: To Feed the Human Spirit®. In everything we do, we're guided by our values and our Purpose: to Feed the Human Spirit. We strive to make decisions that balance the safety of our associates with our commitments to our customers and communities. And above all else, we'll be there for our communities when they need us most.