United Way News Release

of Central Ohio

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**United Way of Central Ohio**

**COVID-19 Community Response Fund**

**Invests an additional $399,700 in Local Nonprofits**

*Combined with the $373,000 previously distributed, the total investment to date has reached $772,700 to 32 nonprofit partners*

Columbus – The second round of grants from United Way of Central Ohio’s COVID-19 Community Response Fund are being distributed immediately.

* 23 nonprofit partners on the front lines assisting families and individuals impacted by the crisis will receive a total of $399,700.
* The fund has grown to more than $1.57 million in both gifts and match pool dollars thanks to the generosity of corporate sponsors, leadership donors and individual contributors.
* The second round of grants range from $3,200 to $50,000.
* Combined with the $373,000 deployed in the first round, the total investment to date has reached $772,700 to 32 nonprofit partners.
* Several organizations have applied for and received a grant in both the first and second grant cycles.

These grants will help the selected nonprofits in four primary areas:

* **Increasing food distribution:** United Way is assisting nonprofits such as St. Stephen's Community House, Local Matters, Catholic Social Services and The Salvation Army in Central Ohio and others with funding to safely provide food to families and individuals.
* **Supporting education:** The YMCA of Central Ohio, City Year and Central Community House will receive funding to provide immediate support for school-age children, AmeriCorps members and youth services.
* **Providing emergency services:**Many nonprofits, such as Huckleberry House and Ethiopian Tewahedo Social Services, will receive funds for new delivery models or services to meet urgent needs.
* **Maintaining operations and essential services:**Most nonprofit partners have lost substantial revenue. Community Development for All People, Lutheran Social Service HandsOn 221 Call Center, Moms2B and Community Kitchen are among those receiving funding to continue providing critical services.

Our latest survey revealed that nonprofits have been forced to suspend or drastically limit 80% of programs serving our community.  [You can read the complete nonprofit survey results here.](https://liveunitedcentralohio.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/COVID-Nonprofit-Survey_April-2020.FINAL_0414.pdf)

United Way is encouraging donors to continue to give generously and keep the momentum going for this much-needed fund. Online donations can be made at [www.liveunitedcentralohio.org/responsefund](http://www.liveunitedcentralohio.org/responsefund).

About the COVID-19 Community Response Fund

On March 16, United Way launched our COVID-19 Community Response Fund with generous support from key corporate sponsors and leadership donors. Since that time, sponsors and donors have contributing more than $1.57 million in both match pool dollars and contributions toward the emergency assistance fund.

The fund benefits United Way’s network of more than 80 highly effective nonprofit partners. United Way is working with nonprofit partners to identify critical needs and has quickly implemented an application and allocation process.

Online donations can be made at www.liveunitedcentralohio.org/responsefund. All donations will receive a 50% match from a match pool provided by our generous corporate partners and individual donors. Example: A $100 gift will be matched with an additional $50.

The fund addresses critical community needs, including access to food and household essentials, child care, and keeping the community’s safety net strong.

*(Detailed list of grants included below.)*

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*United Way of Central Ohio provides opportunities for people to prosper.  We do that by acting as a catalyst for lasting improvements and by mobilizing our community to give and volunteer.  We raise funds and invest in a network of more than 80 funded partners that work to ensure people in crisis get food, shelter and assistance; help children succeed from cradle to career; engage residents, businesses and government in neighborhood revitalization efforts and teach people the skills they need to get and keep a good job. We bring leaders together to improve the policies and systems that directly affect thousands of lives, and we develop and implement innovative and integrated ways to reduce poverty.  We work intensively in priority neighborhoods to create broad positive changes by empowering neighborhood leaders and residents to change the places they live.  We are dedicated to making the principles of diversity, equity and inclusion a foundation for everything we do because we know the best decisions are made when all voices are heard and respected.  As one of the largest United Ways in the country, we bring together more than 60,000 donors and volunteers.  For more information, visit www.liveunitedcentralohio.org.*

United Way of Central Ohio COVID-19

Community Response Fund

First Round of Grants

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Organization** | **Purpose Statement** | **Approved Amount** |
| Action for Children | To create and distribute 1,500 Columbus Cares Kid Kits for under-resourced families using local Nationwide Children’s Hospital Close to Home locations. | $10,000 |
| Alvis | To support operation expenses and rental assistance for clients unable to pay rent. | $20,000 |
| Catholic Social Services | To offset the costs to procure computers to sustain the social work efforts of the organization. | $10,000 |
| Charitable Pharmacy | To support additional short-term professional staff, to purchase medication, protective equipment, thermometers, and to temporarily install two tents for triage. | $15,000 |
| Columbus Early Learning Centers | To support the increased cost of cleaning supplies and to meet payroll and benefits for employees across all childcare center sites. | $20,000 |
| Community Shelter Board | To help underwrite the operation of the temporary 40 West Long St. Shelter facility, including food, housing and shelter for 200 men. | $50,000 |
| Direction for Youth and Families | to provide payroll for staff delivering needed counseling services to families and for food to provide meals. | $20,000 |
| DOMA (Freedom a la Cart) | To keep workforce development participants engaged and pivot to providing sack meals to victims and survivors of human trafficking. | $8,000 |
| Furniture Bank of Central Ohio | To provide furniture to 200 families in need typically funded through surplus from thrift store operations. | $10,000 |
| Legal Aid | To maintain staff attorneys to meet increased demand. | $20,000 |
| Lifecare | To support the increased numbers of seniors receiving home delivery of meals. | $50,000 |
| Lutheran Social Services | To support the Champion Avenue food pantry including increased cost with maintaining stricter sanitation standards. | $20,000 |
| NNEMAP | To support additional staff payroll and cover increased food costs. | $10,000 |
| South Side Early Learning | To provide Care Kits to families and provide support to meet staff costs and needs. | $20,000 |
| Star House | To support food and clothing costs due to stricter sanitation standards as well as to supplemental transportation to essential services. | $10,000 |
| YMCA | To provide essential services, operations, and programming. | $50,000 |
| YWCA | To meet payroll for essential services at the pandemic childcare, homeless center and permanent supportive housing. | $30,000 |

**Total Invested Round 1 – COVID Community Response Fund Grants: $373,000**

Second Round of Grants

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Organization** | **Purpose Statement** | **Approved Amount** |
| Alvis | |  | | --- | | To support increased staff salaries due to the addition of clinical case manager to provide virtual support to 125 families in the “After Alvis” program. | | $15,000 |
| American Red Cross | |  | | --- | | To support increased expenses related to safety measures for American Red Cross clients, volunteers and staff, all of which have increased due to COVID-19. | | $25,000 |
| Catholic Social Services | To meet the increased food expenses of serving more families more food, increased price of food, and operational needs of the Our Lady of Guadalupe Center Food Pantry. | $10,000 |
| Central Community House | To meet the increased costs of youth and family supportive services, delivering supplies and resources to families, senior weekly wellness checks and increased staff time due to volunteers now staying home. | $25,000 |
| Charitable Pharmacy | To fund increased staffing needs due to sidelining of volunteers and medication inventory needs not covered through donated medication. | $15,000 |
| City Year | To support AmeriCorps members with food and supplies, stipends and health benefits. | $15,000 |
| Clintonville Community Resource Center | To provide 3 days of shelf-stable food for both pick-up and delivery, established of “friendly phone line” to support people dealing with isolation and Necessity Boxes of household supplies. | $20,000 |
| Community Development for All People | To support operations and staffing costs for our Healthy Eating and Living (HEAL) program and the All People's Fresh Market. | $10,000 |
| Community Kitchen, Inc. | To sustain core operational infrastructure and shifting from prepared to grab-and-go meals. | $3,200 |
| Community Shelter Board | To support slowing the spread of COVID-19 among emergency shelter populations and caring for people experiencing homelessness who need isolation and quarantine. | $50,000 |
| Ethiopian  Tewahedo  Social Services | To support the creation and distribution of multi-lingual materials through diverse channels to provide pertinent COVID-19 information and support services for Immigrants and Refugees in Central Ohio. | $10,000 |
| Gladden Community House | To support emergency supplemental support for basic and essential services through Gladden Food Pantry. | $21,500 |
| Goodwill | To support PPE and sanitation supplies for Goodwill Columbus Direct Support Professionals who provide residential care services to individuals with disabilities. | $15,000 |
| Huckleberry House | To support Telehealth, cleaning and protective equipment. | $20,000 |
| LifeCare Alliance | To provide critical health and nutrition services to seniors and individuals with an existing medical challenge. | $25,000 |
| Local Matters | To respond to urgent issues of food access and insecurity with mobile, no-contact meal and grocery delivery for individuals and organizations without access. | $10,000 |
| Lutheran Social Services | To help cover the costs of increased staffing needs due to high community demand and increased call volume at LSS HandsOn 211 Call Center. | $10,000 |
| NNEMAP | To cover increased costs for housekeeping service; increased costs for hourly staff, food purchases and delivery fees; and to replace lost event revenue. | $10,000 |
| Moms2B | To provide critical services, such as food, utilities and rent assistance to at-risk expectant, new mothers and their families during the COVID-19 crisis. | $20,000 |
| Salvation Army | To support purchase of food, boxes, bags and gloves for food delivery operations in Franklin County. | $15,000 |
| St. Stephen’s Community House | To cover the increased costs of operating the Food and Nutrition Center during COVID-19. | $20,000 |
| St. Vincent | To support preparation of rooms for youth living in residential unit who test positive for COVID-19. | $10,000 |
| YMCA | To support increased, unplanned expenses of operations due to COVID19 closures of facilities and increased expenses related to home-schooling the 100 school-age children living at Van Buren Center. | $25,000 |

**Total Invested Round 2 – COVID Community Response Fund Grants: $399,700**

**Total Invested as of April 13, 2020 (two rounds) to support COVID Community Response Fund Grantees: $772,700**