Purpose of the Greater Atlanta COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund

United Way of Greater Atlanta and the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta have joined together to establish the Greater Atlanta COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund (COVID-19 Fund), seeded with funds from each of our organizations. We have and will continue to solicit donations from individual donors, corporate partners and family foundation partners to provide flexible resources to organizations working with communities disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and its economic consequences.

COVID-19 Fund Initial Priorities

The COVID-19 Fund will award grants to organizations supporting families with young children and children on free and reduced lunch and individuals without health insurance, access to sick days or access to healthcare; low-wage workers including hospitality, service industry and gig economy workers. Initial priorities will focus on the immediate needs of economically vulnerable populations resulting from closures and support community safety nets such as food insecurity, rent and utility assistance, medical supports and childcare. Additional priorities are the educational and emotional needs of children and youth across our region, and the needs of seniors throughout the region.

This fund will also support the gaps in the capacity of our existing nonprofit partners adversely affected by the impact of COVID-19. Gaps include unanticipated interruptions in business operations, impacts from interruptions in state and/or local government programs or services and the impact of volunteering in an age of social distancing.

Fund Priority Areas

- Childcare
- Education
- Emergency Financial Assistance
- Food
- Health
- Housing
- Small Business Supports

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible to receive a grant, organizations must:

- Be classified by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service under Section 501(c)(3) of the I.R.S. code as a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization, donations to which are deductible as charitable contributions under Section 170 (c)(2) or have a fiscal sponsor that qualifies as a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization. I.R.S. determination must be current.
- Be located and providing services in one of these counties: Barrow, Bartow, Butts, Carroll, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Hall, Henry, Morgan, Newton, Paulding, Pickens, Rockdale, Spalding or Walton, or City of Atlanta;
- Be registered with the Georgia Secretary of State as a nonprofit (click here to verify: ecorp.sos.ga.gov/BusinessSearch);
- Have strong relationships and trust in the community.
Award Details
The Fund will award general operating support grants. Award amounts will vary based on organizational capacity, scope of services provided, community needs and total resources available.

Selection Process
United Way and Community Foundation staff will solicit guidance on potential recipients from community partners to identify organizations currently providing or receiving requests for support aligned with the priorities of the Fund. This includes working closely with the State of Georgia’s Coronavirus Task Force Committee for Homeless and Displaced Persons, and other state and federal supports that are to be issued in the coming days and weeks.

United Way and Community Foundation staff will proactively identify potential grant recipients based on communities’ needs, solicit guidance on potential recipients from community advisors, and recommend final awards. Funds will be released on a rolling basis as fundraising continues throughout the outbreak and recovery phases of the crisis, making it possible to move resources quickly and adapt to evolving needs in subsequent funding phases. United Way will administer grants from the Fund.

We anticipate making the first round of investments the week of March 23, 2020. Information about selected grantees will be posted on United Way and the Community Foundation’s websites, including short descriptions of the services and support they are providing. We hope that this transparency will help the community navigate available resources.

Funding Partners (list is current as of 3/25/2020):
- Robert W. Woodruff Foundation
- The Coca-Cola Foundation
- Wells Fargo
- Global Payments
- The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation
- Truist Foundation
- Primerica Foundation
- 11Alive, WXIA-TV & the TEGNA Foundation
- Nearly 500 individuals and families

Contributions may be made to either United Way of Greater Atlanta or the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta.

For more information, please contact:

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Click here to contribute to the Greater Atlanta COVID-19 Response & Recovery Fund.