



# COVID-19 Response Fund Grants

April 3, 2020

Rhode Island Foundation and United Way of Rhode Island have awarded a total of \$3.6 million to 76 local organizations at the forefront of COVID-19 response.

Three rounds of grants have been awarded. The grantee organization and brief grant descriptions appear below, with the most recent round of grants appearing first.

A joint grants review committee – composed of team members from the Foundation and from United Way of Rhode Island – are working together to review applications and make funding decisions.

## Round Three April 3, 2020

Organization	Grant description
Blackstone Valley Advocacy Center	The funding will support telehealth services, staffing for a helpline, and direct assistance funds to defray the cost of transportation, groceries, laundry, supplies, and other essential services.
Domestic Violence Resource Center of South County	This grant will support staffing and basic needs so that the organization may continue to provide services to victims of domestic violence who seek to escape a dangerous environment during the COVID-19 crisis.
Dorcas International Institute of Rhode Island	These funds will help to maintain program operations to support refugee populations with unemployment claims, information about the current pandemic outbreak in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner, and basic human needs.
East Bay Community Action Program	The grant will allow for the purchase and implementation of a telehealth tool and will also support the food pantry, limited home visiting to elders, and overall operations at four integrated health sites. Funding will also be used to purchase gift cards that will be distributed to clients who are in need of essential items such as food, formula and diapers, medications, utility assistance, and more.
Elizabeth Buffum Chace Center	With this funding, the Elizabeth Buffum Chace Center will be able to continue essential support for domestic violence victims and their families and will provide additional resources required to those for whom leaving their abusers is not possible while in quarantine.
Higher Ground International	Grant funds will be used to hire essential social and medical staff lost due to the pandemic, mitigate psychosocial and basic needs by maintaining safe social connections to ensure mental and health stability of vulnerable elders.
Hope Recovery Network, Inc.	The funding will support residents in six different locations to supplement food and fee expenses for vulnerable populations.
James L. Maher Center	The grant will be used to retain essential staff who are providing the “Day Program To Go”, to shield 200 participants with intellectual and developmental disabilities from the depression, anxiety, loss of self-determination, erosion of social skills, and other effects from the diminution of social interaction.
John Clark Retirement Center	Funds will support the care and treatment of nursing home residents and apartment tenants to ensure dietary needs are met as they shelter in place. The grant will also allow agency to purchase personal protective equipment, incontinence products, and to address technology barriers and additional staffing needs.
Latino Public Radio	Grant funding will allow the organization to create three additional streaming channels to communicate important information related to the COVID-19 crisis to vulnerable Spanish-speaking populations – the elderly, youth of all ages, and Mexican/South American Rhode Islanders.
Learning Community Charter School	This funding will support assistance to school families in paying basic living expenses such as rent, utilities, food, and healthcare. This grant will also support the Learning Community to continue case management, legal counsel, and wraparound support for families.
Mount Hope Neighborhood Association, Inc.	The grant will allow Mount Hope Neighborhood Association to address impact of COVID-19 on the WIC program, and to sustain their local food pantry – including food drop-off to seniors/older adults, the homeless, residents with low income, handicapped individuals and their families.
Newport Community School	This funding will support the expansion of the food pantry beyond nonperishable products to personal care, household cleaning, and gift cards to local grocery stores to purchase fruit, vegetables, and meat to support families in need in collaboration with the Newport Public Schools and local adult job training programs.
Nonviolence Institute	Grant funding will provide direct assistance to clients and will support the continued efforts of staff.
Northern RI Food Pantry	The funds will support food assistance to vulnerable populations in Northern Rhode Island.
Progreso Latino, Inc.	This grant will allow Progreso Latino to provide assistance to individuals and families in Central Falls and Pawtucket that are ineligible for public benefits with basic needs and home rental assistance.
Providence Community Health Centers, Inc.	Grant funding will ensure continued provision of primary care services through direct visits and telehealth to help as many people as possible to shelter in place, handle simple and chronic conditions over the phone, and manage mild to moderate influenza within their homes instead of the emergency room or hospital.
Rhode Island Community Food Bank	For the duration of the crisis, the Food Bank will act as the grocery supplier for Rhode Island’s food assistance network. This funding will support the Food Bank in its efforts to continue operations at a high level, ensuring that there is enough food in the network to provide some assistance to all those in need.
Smith Hill Community Development Corporation	These funds will support the Smith Hill CDC in providing rental assistance to tenants and low-wage workers in the service and hospitality industry.
The Collective	This grant will be used to meet basic needs such as food, rent, cash assistance and household supplies for children and families with unemployed caregivers, senior shut-ins, and high risk individuals.
The College Crusade of Rhode Island	The College Crusade will give emergency grants to first-generation, low-income college students who are adversely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
The Groden Center	This grant will keep group residences staffed and supplied, and will provide the funding needed to expand telehealth, virtual group and 1:1 sessions, and to purchase other technology to enhance distance learning with vulnerable clients.
Tri-County Community Action Agency	The grant will provide direct support such as emergency food, sanitary supplies, medical expense relief, and rental/utilities assistance to clients.
Women’s Resource Center	These funds will ensure that the needs of victims of domestic violence are met and that staff have access to the equipment, supplies, and technology they need to provide free and confidential services to clients.

## Round Two April 3, 2020

Alliance to Mobilize Our Resistance (AMOR)	Funds will support approximately 300 vulnerable families with food, rental assistance, and material aid on an ongoing basis.
Amos House	The grant award will support the increase in need among the homeless population, those living paycheck to paycheck, families who experience increased medical bills during this time, and those who are unemployed.
Blackstone Valley Community Health Care	The funding will be used to purchase additional protective equipment for the staff, screens for each patient and visitor to the facility, and will support implementation of telehealth systems.
Blackstone Valley Emergency Food Center	These funds will be used primarily to purchase food for vulnerable families during this emergency.
Capital Good Fund	These funds will help establish a Rhode Island Crisis Relief Loan Fund which will be used to finance 180 Crisis Loans reaching a total of roughly 540 individuals.
CareLink, Inc.	The grant award will be used to ensure frontline essential health workers can continue to safely provide needed services to approximately 3,000 older adults.
Child & Family	Funds will be used immediately to support approximately 210 households through community-based programs and the Family Care Community Partnership. Over 500 seniors will receive case management services, many remotely, to ensure they remain healthy and connected in their homes during this crisis.
Clinica Esperanza/Hope Clinic	These funds will be used to support COVID-19 testing, triage, and continuity of access to care.
College Visions	This grant award will allow College Visions to meet an increase in need for emergency food, housing, and technology related to online learning for its students.
Community Action Partnership of Providence	Funds will support increased operations costs directly related to COVID-19 response and recovery efforts. It will also provide direct assistance in the form of food gift cards and rental mortgage assistance due to layoffs and unemployment.
Family Service of Rhode Island	The grant award will provide basic needs for some of the most vulnerable in Rhode Island – including the homeless, victims of crime, medically vulnerable, foster children, families with low to moderate income, and children and families suffering from trauma.
Genesis Center	Funding will support the Genesis Center to provide culturally and linguistically appropriate remote services to constituents, including employment support, financial coaching, online training, and emergency assistance for food, housing, healthcare, and more.
Gloria Gemma Breast Cancer Resource Foundation	This grant award will support the Healthy Meals Delivery service for cancer patients on medical leave from their jobs.
Hope & Main	With the support of East Bay municipal leadership, Hope & Main will use funds to mobilize Nourish Our Neighbors, serving up to 900 families weekly.
New Beginnings, Inc.	Funds will be used to cover the increased need for delivery of free meals, backpacks, tents, toiletries, coats, clothing, and grocery store gift cards to the most vulnerable residents of Woonsocket and Northern RI.
Newport Mental Health	The grant award will be used to implement telehealth solutions for clients and provide emergency protective equipment for clinicians who work face-to-face with community members with the most acute needs.
Olneyville Neighborhood Association	Olneyville Neighborhood Association will use this grant to support families in Olneyville with direct assistance, including help with rent, utility bills, and groceries for the next three months.
Operation Stand Down Rhode Island	Funds will provide assistance to homeless and at-risk veterans, filling in the gaps in federal and state funding to assist veterans experiencing hardship due to COVID-19.
Pawtucket Central Falls Development	The grant award will help prevent housing disruptions for 250+ low-income tenants and will provide a trilingual effort to inform tenants about food, education, healthcare, and employment relief opportunities during this crisis. It will also support food boxes for local families – utilizing local farmers and food producers – and providing gift cards to local bodegas to offset the food burden tenants are facing, while also supporting local small businesses.
Project Weber/RENEW	The funds will provide essential services – such as food and rental assistance – for vulnerable families and individuals due to marginal housing status, substance use, and/or HIV risk profile.
Providence Housing Authority	Funding will be used to procure, pack, and deliver food boxes to the most COVID-19 vulnerable residents, focusing on 1,000 elderly and disabled tenants who need to limit trips.
ReFocus, Inc.	ReFocus will use these grant funds to assist both staff and independent living clients with their basic needs, providing support with food, rent, household expenses, and health care costs that result from loss of income, or other hardships directly resulting from this pandemic.
Refugee Development Center	The grant award will ensure all clients – whether they are elderly, immune compromised, or facing discrimination – have the supplies and information they need related to the pandemic. This includes regular check-ins with clients, dissemination of reliable and accurate information about COVID-19, and providing basic necessities to the homes of refugee families.
Westbay Community Action	Funding will support WestBay Community Action in assisting approximately 3,750 households in Kent County with food assistance, elderly case management, and rental assistance.
Young Voices	This grant will support 200 low-income youth and their families to ensure the receipt of a monthly stipend, and assist with the cost of purchasing and delivering food.

## Round One March 27, 2020

Adoption Rhode Island	Funding will ensure that Adoption Rhode Island can meet the needs of high-risk clients and new foster and adoptive children, youth, and families in crisis due to the pandemic.
Alliance for Better Long Term Care	The grant will enable the Alliance for Better Long Term Care to continue assisting family members and residents residing in nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and hospice remotely.
Barrington TAPIN	Granted funds will be used to purchase additional food, household items, and toiletries for East Bay residents in need.
Blackstone Valley Community Action Program	Funds will be used for operating support to provide direct assistance to clients affected by COVID-19, specifically by providing rental assistance and gift cards to purchase food.
Boys Town New England	This grant will support vulnerable families with children in foster care with basic human needs assistance, continued support, and services for the youth residing on their campus with direct care staff.
Comprehensive Community Action Program	Funding will be provided to offset telehealth costs for remote technology to serve vulnerable, integrated health patients.
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center	The grant will be used to re-stock food assistance resources and provide scholarships for nearly 5,000 Newport County individuals, children, and members of vulnerable populations.
Elisha Project	Funding will be used to replenish food inventory stock and increase distribution for the next three to six months.
Lucy’s Hearth	Lucy’s Hearth will use this grant to provide services to the homeless, families with low- to moderate-income, and children and families suffering from the trauma of homelessness and related family instability. Funding will also be used assist residents transitioning to affordable housing with direct financial assistance.
Meals on Wheels of Rhode Island	Grant funds will be used to continue Meals on Wheels work to keep our state’s homebound senior citizens well-fed and safe in their own homes.
Newport Partnership for Families	Newport Partnership for Families will use this funding to supply San José Food Pantry with a month’s worth of non-perishable food and household supplies for up to 200 Hispanic families in Newport.
North Kingstown Food Pantry	The grant will cover additional food and employee cost to provide over 1200 individuals with food assistance.
Pawtucket Soup Kitchen	Funding will support the purchase of food and program supplies to serve approximately 200 - 250 per day during the current pandemic.
Rhode Island Free Clinic	The grant will ensure that the Clinic’s patient caseload of 2,600 uninsured, low-income adults will continue to have access to essential primary care services during the next four months.
Rhode Island Pride	The funds will support efforts to deliver food, sanitation, and hygiene supplies to over 1,500 Rhode Islanders over the course of the next three weeks.
Rhode Island Rescue Ministries	Rhode Island Rescue Ministries will use the grant award to provide homeless individuals and families with increased care and respite from the COVID-19 pandemic.
Rhode Island Coalition for the Homeless	The funding will supply homeless shelters across Rhode Island with essential provisions, laundry services, rental assistance, and stipends for homeless individuals and families.
Rhode Island Hospitality Education Foundation	The grant will support the RI Hospitality Employee Relief Fund which aims to provide food service, lodging, and tourism employees who have been laid off due to COVID-19 and are facing financial hardship, with direct assistance.
Sheila C. “Skip” Nowell Leadership Academy	Grant funding will allow the Nowell Leadership Academy to establish an emergency student support fund to assist 160 young parents and their infants/toddlers with immediate basic human needs related to the COVID-19 crisis.
Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Rhode Island	Funds will be used to provide food, supplies, market gift cards, gas gift cards, prescriptions, and rental assistance to Rhode Islanders across the state.
Sojourner House	The grant will provide direct assistance to Smith Hill neighbors and Providence residents at the Sojourner House Drop-In Center, as well as supplies for three emergency shelter locations, and rental assistance for residential clients throughout Rhode Island.
The Boys & Girls Club of East Providence	The funding will provide delivery of free dinner meals to families and children in East Providence by request. 400 meal kits are expected to be served daily through the end of the original school year.
Thundermist Health Center	This grant will help to cover Thundermist’s emergency response and operational needs. The investment will impact more than 52,000 patients and allow the health care provider to keep their doors open during this crisis.
Tides Family Services	This award will allow Tides Family Services to continue programming that serves vulnerable families and youth. The funding will provide access to cleaning and sanitizing supplies for staff and constituents at their open facilities.
WARM Center	This funding will allow WARM to meet an increased need among Southern Rhode Island residents caused by the pandemic. Services provided by WARM will include rental assistance, case management, and food assistance.
West End Community Center	This grant will allow the West End Community Center to remain open and continue to keep up with the current increased demand of families in need.
Women’s Refugee Care	The grant will provide vital aid, both in the form of direct cash disbursements and the indirect paying of bills, and buying necessary household goods for refugee families impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.