

April 10, 2020

**COVID-19 Response Fund awards more than \$3 million to 51 local nonprofits
aiding victims of coronavirus crisis in second round of grants**
More than \$6 million awarded over two rounds of grants; next cycle to begin April 20

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CHARLOTTE – More than \$3 million has been awarded to 51 local nonprofits in the second round of grants from the COVID-19 Response Fund. To date, more than \$6 million has been granted to nonprofits meeting basic needs for those affected by the pandemic, such as education, housing, food, employment, financial assistance, health and mental health.

The latest grants were awarded via a competitive grant cycle open to all Mecklenburg County 501(c)3 nonprofits that met eligibility requirements. Since the Charlotte-Mecklenburg COVID-19 Response was launched on March 16, more than \$16 million has been raised from corporations, foundations, individuals and local government.

“These grants will assist a wide variety of nonprofit organizations across the county to meet escalating needs in the face of this unprecedented crisis,” said United Way of Central Carolinas President and CEO Laura Yates Clark. “These nonprofits are on the frontlines, providing much-needed assistance. They’re doing amazing work despite dealing with many of the same limitations and concerns we all face.”

“To date, we’ve made 65 grants to nonprofits from this fund, and it’s just the beginning,” said Foundation For The Carolinas President and CEO Michael Marsicano. “We do not know what our demands will be in a week or a month. This is why we continue to fund-raise for the COVID-19 Response Fund – to help our friends and neighbors in need.”

The second round of grants from the COVID-19 Response Fund include:

- \$50,000 to **Charlotte Speech and Hearing Center** to provide 250 children with virtual speech and language therapy and to assist 50 seniors with hearing evaluations/hearing aids.
- \$25,000 to **E2D** to purchase parts needed to refurbish donated laptops, open uptown lab to create expanded capacity to refurbish donated laptops and pay stipends to student-employees who work on laptops.
- \$10,000 to **Latin Americans Working for Achievement** to provide scholarships to LatinX college students.
- \$45,000 to the **Learning Collaborative** to support parents and students through their online instruction program, TLC@Home.
- \$150,000 to **Goodwill Industries of the Southern Piedmont** to provide online training/retraining to unemployed individuals re-entering workforce.
- \$25,000 to **Mecklenburg Council of Elders** to purchase hardware/software to provide services virtually.
- \$75,000 to **Ada Jenkins Center** to provide emergency financial assistance and support to individuals and families.
- \$20,500 to **Caterpillar Ministries** to provide financial assistance for 40 families.
- \$50,000 to **Charlotte Center for Legal Advocacy** to provide legal advice and representation.

- \$15,000 to **Davidson Housing Coalition** to provide emergency financial assistance to tenants in affordable housing units.
- \$30,000 to **Lakewood Neighborhood Alliance** to provide emergency financial assistance to neighborhood residents.
- \$15,000 to **Pineville Neighbors Place** to provide emergency financial assistance to neighborhood residents.
- \$75,000 to **RAIN** to provide emergency financial assistance to individuals living with HIV/AIDS.
- \$50,000 to **Refugee Support Services of the Carolinas** to provide refugees with supplies and emergency financial assistance.
- \$25,000 to **Servants Heart of Mint Hill** to provide food, hygiene supplies and emergency financial assistance.
- \$50,000 to **Brookhill Community Resource Center** to provide emergency financial assistance to neighborhood residents.
- \$12,000 to **Dilworth Soup Kitchen** for food and supplies needed to provide to-go meals.
- \$25,000 to **Friendship Trays** to purchase food, prepare and deliver meals to seniors.
- \$40,000 to **Heal Charlotte** to purchase and deliver food to residents along Reagan Drive Corridor in Hidden Valley.
- \$5,000 to **Hope Street Food Pantry** to purchase food and build capacity to serve as a mobile pantry.
- \$300,000 to **Loaves & Fishes** to package and deliver food boxes to more than 35,000 people in need.
- \$22,480 to **North End Community Coalition** to purchase personal hygiene care packs and food for families in need.
- \$40,000 to **ourBRIDGE for KIDS** to provide food to immigrant and refugee families.
- \$10,000 to **Reeder Memorial Baptist Church Missions Place** to purchase food and equipment to expand pantry operations.
- \$25,000 to **Sandra and Leon Levine Jewish Community Center** to deliver food to seniors.
- \$500,000 to **Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina** to purchase and distribute food.
- \$25,000 to **University City Foundation** to purchase and distribute food to residents of the University City neighborhood.
- \$15,000 to **Alexander Youth Network** to continue mental health services for 340 youth.
- \$75,000 to **Care Ring** to maintain health outcomes for 6,500 clients receiving primary or specialty care.
- \$50,000 to **Lake Norman Community Health Clinic** to expand tele-health capabilities and increase behavioral health support.
- \$30,000 to **Matthews Free Medical Clinic** to continue serving 297 existing patients and increase access for unemployed clients without insurance.
- \$100,000 to **MedAssist of Mecklenburg** to continue serving 3,819 existing patients and increase access for unemployed clients without insurance.
- \$30,000 to **Pat's Place Child Advocacy Center** to provide remote mental health counseling services and increase capability of in-person interviews for high-risk abuse cases.
- \$50,000 to **Promise Resource Network** to maintain mental health services.
- \$40,000 to the **Steve Smith Family Foundation** to maintain mental health services at Steve Smith Family Wellness Center.

- \$35,000 to the **West Boulevard Neighborhood Coalition** to purchase and distribute masks and cleaning supplies for residents.
- \$25,000 to **Beds for Kids** to purchase new beds for distribution.
- \$83,500 to **Carolinas CARE Partnership** to provide temporary shelter and rental assistance for tenants living with AIDS.
- \$40,000 to **Catholic Charities Diocese of Charlotte** to provide rental assistance for 50 vulnerable households.
- \$100,000 to **Charlotte Rescue Mission** to maintain shelter and support services for 269 residents of Dove's Nest and Charlotte Rescue Mission
- \$50,000 to **Florence Crittenton Services of North Carolina** to provide shelter, support and mental health services for 160 pregnant clients.
- \$20,000 to **Friendship Community Development Corporation** to maintain transitional housing for 26 women.
- \$10,000 to **Watchmen of the Streets** to purchase tents, blankets and other supplies for unsheltered homeless.
- \$100,000 to **Habitat for Humanity of Charlotte** to maintain housing for 600 homeowners.
- \$50,000 to **Hope Haven** to maintain shelter and support for more than 100 individuals in recovery.
- \$20,000 to **Humane Society of Charlotte** to help address financial expenses related to pet care.
- \$30,000 to the **Lotus Campaign** to facilitate housing placement for 100 families.
- \$75,000 to **Safe Alliance** to ensure adult survivors of abuse and their children are safely sheltered.
- \$50,000 to the **Center for Community Transitions** to provide social and emotional support to 210 formerly incarcerated women, as well as 80 children and their caregivers.
- \$35,000 to **The Relatives** to provide shelter and financial assistance to 25-35 young adults.
- \$250,000 to **The Salvation Army** to sustain housing and after-school programming for up to 1,000 individuals.

The next cycle of funding will open April 20 at 10 a.m. and close May 1 at noon. Visit uwcentralcarolinas.org/grants/COVID for eligibility requirements and to apply.

A COVID-19 Response Fund Grants Committee has been established to review and distribute grants from the fund. The committee is made up of 17 local leaders representing a diversity of business sectors, backgrounds and Mecklenburg County geographic locations:

The committee is co-chaired by Tanya Blackmon of Novant Health and Edwin Peacock of Pomfret Financial. It also includes: Charles Bowman, Bank of America; Jordan Boyd, Rockwell AME Zion Church; Heath Campbell, Truist Financial; Alexis Coleman, Davidson United Methodist Church; Betsy Conway, Lowe's; Dena Diorio, Mecklenburg County; Malcolm Graham, City of Charlotte; Mark Jerrell, Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners; Cliff Matthews, St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church; Brian Middleton, Atrium; Dee O'Dell, U.S. Bank; Jill Olmstead, LendingTree; Susan Patterson, community volunteer; Federico Rios, City of Charlotte; Mike Rizer of Ally Financial; and Lisa Saunders, Christ Church Charlotte.

The COVID-19 Response Fund is administered through a partnership between Foundation For The Carolinas and United Way of Central Carolinas, in close coordination with the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.

NEWS RELEASE

To contribute to the COVID-19 Response Fund, visit [HelpCharMeck.org](https://www.helpcharmeck.org). Corporations and foundations that wish to make a donation may contact either Catherine Warfield, Senior Vice President of Philanthropic Advancement at FFTC, at 704.973.4515 or cwarfield@fftc.org; or Clint Hill, Chief Development Officer at United Way of Central Carolinas, at 704.371.6359 or chill@uwcentralcarolinas.org.

About Foundation For The Carolinas

Founded in 1958, Foundation For The Carolinas is the sixth-largest nonprofit community foundation in the country, serving donors and a broad range of charitable purposes in North and South Carolina. With assets of \$2.6 billion, FFTC's mission is to inspire philanthropy and empower individuals to create a better community. Visit www.fftc.org.

About United Way of Central Carolinas

United Way fights for the education, health and financial stability of every person in our region, improving lives by mobilizing the caring power of local communities in Charlotte/Mecklenburg, Mooresville/Lake Norman, and Anson, Cabarrus and Union counties. For more information, please visit uwcentralcarolinas.org.

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