

## **United Way of McLean County COVID-19 Community Care Fund FAQs**

### **What will my donation support?**

United Way of McLean County's top priority right now is to find and fund solutions for local families negatively impacted by COVID-19. We are working with local partners—including government, nonprofits, and businesses—to determine how to reach families in need and provide them with special services in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Early indications are that the need for food security among low-income families is great and the first disbursements from the fund are focused on meeting that immediate need. Needs assessment will be ongoing as we move through the next weeks and months. As always, your contribution to United Way is a tax-exempt charitable donation.

### **Is there a minimum or suggested donation?**

No, we are grateful for any and all donations shared during this difficult time to serve families in need. There is no amount too small to help make a difference. In fact, just \$5 will provide a meal for someone in need, and your contribution of \$20 will provide a meal for a family of four.

### **How can I access resources from the Community Care Fund?**

If you are in need of help, please call 2-1-1 to gain 24/7 access to information, referrals and crisis response to find the help you need. United Way is working with all our partners in the region to identify unmet needs and respond collaboratively to the impacts of COVID-19 in our county.

### **How will the Community Care Fund decide how to deploy the funds raised?**

Specific details and plans for Fund distribution are being determined based on the following objectives:

- Create a coordinated, community-wide response
- Reach and support households that might be overlooked using traditional mechanisms and processes
- Make investment/funding decisions in partnership with a cross-section of community stakeholders

### **How can I help spread the word?**

Using your own network to share the need, and inviting others to join you in giving is a great way to multiply your individual impact. We encourage you to help spread the word by sharing our website ([www.uwmclean.org](http://www.uwmclean.org)) or giving link (<https://covid19.dsgive.us>) or sharing invitations to contribute from our facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/uwaymc>.

## **United Way Illinois COVID-19 Response Fund FAQs**

**What is the difference between this state-wide fund and the local Mclean County Community Care Fund?**

The IL fund is a state-wide effort that is being run parallel to local organizing to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic at the state level. The IL fund will be disbursed to nonprofit organizations across the State of Illinois serving individuals, families and communities hit hardest by the COVID-19 pandemic. The McLean County COVID-19 Community Care Fund will be used to respond *directly* to needs in McLean County. Contributions to both funds are a tax-exempt charitable donation.

### **What will my donation to the IL COVID-19 Response Fund support?**

Your donation will be disbursed to nonprofit organizations across the state of Illinois serving individuals, families and communities hit hardest by the COVID-19 pandemic. This fund will swiftly deploy additional financial resources to local community foundations and nonprofits to support residents in need of: emergency food and basic supplies; interim housing and shelter; primary health care services; utility and financial assistance; supports for children and other vulnerable populations, and nonprofit safety and operations assistance.

### **Will all of the money donated to the Illinois COVID-19 Response Fund go to the communities across the state?**

Yes. Other than a small processing fee for credit card donations, 100% of all donations to the Illinois COVID-19 Response Fund (ICRF) will go directly to support critical services and supplies for those in need across the state. The Illinois COVID-19 Response Fund will work in tandem with other funds set up around the state to ensure that resources are directed where they are needed most.

If you would prefer to make a donation to the **McLean County COVID-19 Community Care Fund**, which will be used solely for needs in McLean County, you can donate [HERE](#).

### **Can a family apply for resources from the IL COVID-19 Response Fund?**

Not directly. All funds will go to Illinois nonprofit organizations serving individuals, families and communities who will disburse services and supplies. Individuals and families in need of support should check back for updates on which organizations are receiving support and may be able to extend assistance.

### **How can I help spread the word?**

Americans and residents across Illinois are engaging with digital platforms and content at record levels to stay informed. We encourage you to share our website: <https://www.ilcovidresponsefund.org> on your own social media channels and within your own networks to help us spread the word.

### **QUESTIONS about the Illinois COVID-19 Response Fund?**

- For media inquiries and interview requests, please contact Eric Sedler at [esedler@kivvit.com](mailto:esedler@kivvit.com).
- To make a credit card donation to the Illinois COVID-19 Response Fund, please visit: <https://www.ilcovidresponsefund.org/donate.html>
- To make a donation to the McLean County COVID-19 Community Care Fund, please visit: <https://covid19.dsgive.us>
- Questions not answered above can be directed to: [ILCovidResponseHelp@unitedwayillinois.org](mailto:ILCovidResponseHelp@unitedwayillinois.org). Please note that we cannot answer inquiries from individuals or organizations seeking assistance at this time;

information about the organizations the Fund will be supporting and future opportunities to apply for grants will come at a later time.