

United Way of Franklin County

182 S. Second St.
Chambersburg, PA 17201



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA CONTACT

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UNITED WAY OF FRANKLIN COUNTY ACTIVATES CRISIS FUND FOR COVID-19 RELIEF

FRANKLIN COUNTY, PA - In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, United Way of Franklin County is activating the **Community Crisis Response & Recovery Fund**. This fund will help families and people across our community who, because of the pandemic, need access to critical resources and services like food, rent assistance, and more. Donations can be made online at www.uwfcpa.org.

“During times of uncertainty, people have always come together to support one another. Coronavirus is a new test of our collective strength. We know our community will come together to support one another, especially those left more vulnerable in the midst of this pandemic. This is the purpose of the Community Crisis Response and Recovery Fund,” said Amy Hicks, Executive Director of United Way of Franklin County.

As social distancing and self-quarantining become the new normal, we’re facing new economic challenges. Industries are seeing sales plummet, and workers are losing wages or jobs because of business and school closures. Children from low-wage families may not be getting breakfast or lunch when schools are closed. Many of our neighbors are living with these unintended consequences of the pandemic from food insecurity to loss of income, and more will become in need of assistance.

United Way of Franklin County is connecting with local partners to organize solutions for anticipated needs and hardships presented by widespread protective measures against the spread of COVID-19. The Community Crisis Relief & Recovery Fund supports our neighbors struggling to meet basic needs in the wake of the new virus by supporting local programs serving the most vulnerable, as well as PA211, the go-to information resource in times of crisis.

In addition to the crisis fund, United Way of Franklin County is helping local organizations share their volunteer needs with the community. Those who are healthy and willing to volunteer their time to help distribute food, prepare supplies, and more, should visit www.uwfcpa.org/volunteer to view current volunteer opportunities.

The Community Crisis Response & Recovery Fund is available for nonprofit organizations that are providing utility and rent assistance, shelter, food, medical assistance, or other unmet basic needs for individuals and families that have been impacted, financially, by the Coronavirus pandemic in Franklin County, Pa. Organizations should be able to provide documented evidence that funds are supporting impacted families in our community. Organizations may request an application for funding support by emailing office@uwfcpa.org.

A local unmet needs committee led by co-chairs Clint Bolte and Kim Crider will oversee the funds and their distribution. The committee will determine the specific requirements and the process for providing payments from the fund.

“I have never been disappointed by the kindness, support, and rallying spirit of our Franklin County community in times of need. I have great faith that we will rise up together and do so again on an extraordinary scale,” said Crider.

COVID-19 is a quickly evolving situation. Join us in serving the unmet needs of our neighbors impacted by this pandemic through a donation to the Community Crisis Response & Recovery Fund. Donations can be made online at www.uwfcpa.org, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/uwfcpa, or by mailing checks to United Way of Franklin County, 182 S. Second St., Chambersburg, PA 17201 (write “Crisis Fund Donation” in the notes).

If you are in need of assistance during this time, we encourage you to contact 211 by visiting their website www.uwp.org/211gethelp, dialing 2-1-1, or texting your zip code to 898211. Currently, 211 is experiencing high call volumes, and the quickest way to get help is via text.

United Way of Franklin County is a local nonprofit organization with a mission to mobilize the caring power of Franklin County to improve quality of lives. Learn more at www.uwfcpa.org/about.

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