



York County Community Foundation

Responding to a Global Crisis

In partnership with the United Way of York County, YCCF was able to develop the COVID-19 Response Fund and raise over \$1,195,000 with the generosity of businesses and individual donors.

This newsletter highlights the impact of the grants distributed during the pandemic to local nonprofits and businesses in York County.

York County COVID-19 Response Fund

In challenging times, collaboration, generosity, and community are most needed. This is why York County Community Foundation (YCCF) established the York County COVID-19 Response Fund in partnership with the United Way of York County and other philanthropic partners. The fund provided financial support to nonprofit organizations that rose to the challenge of meeting the increasing needs of our community during this crisis.

The fund was seeded by a \$100,000 lead gift from YCCF's Fund for York County, the foundation's most flexible grantmaking fund designed to address the county's greatest needs. 100% of the proceeds went directly toward grants to nonprofit organizations throughout our county.

As community needs evolved, we engaged with nonprofit and government agencies to identify grant recipients and formed a community advisory committee to provide input on the immediate needs in our area. The committee is comprised of representatives from local agencies, health and human services sector experts, and representatives from the community. These advisory groups continue to meet and keep us informed.

"The community foundation knows that in times of need, York Countians step up to support each other," said Jane M. Conover, MSW, President & CEO of YCCF. "By collaborating with the United Way of York County, County government, community organizations, and local advocates we were able to strategically and rapidly deploy our collective resources to meet the increased demands for basic services such as food and housing."

For more information about this fund, please visit <https://yccf.org/covid-19responsefund/>.

Thank You to Our Partners:



The Kinsley Foundation



W. Dale
Brougher
Foundation

Arthur J. &
Lee R.
Glatfelter
Foundation

J William
Warehime
Foundation

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Wagman

Nonprofits Meet Increasing Demands for Food

Grants were awarded to the following organizations to provide food to people throughout York County, from Red Lion to Hanover and Delta to York.

- Catholic Harvest Food Pantry
- Central Penn Food Bank
- Community REACH
- House of Reconciliation Ministry
- Mason Dixon Community Services
- New Hope Ministries
- Northeast Neighborhood Association
- Salvation Army
- YMCA in Southern York County
- YMCA of York and York County
- York Benevolent Association
- York County Food Bank

Grant recipients were identified by teams at YCCF, United Way of York County, and advisory committees of nonprofits who had ramped up their operations to meet the increased demand for food. By learning directly about the challenges and how best to fill gaps in public funding, the grants were targeted to help the greatest number of people most effectively in York County.

With 1 in 5 Pennsylvanian workers registering for unemployment, local charitable food sources saw as much as a 300% increase in need for their services. Nonprofit organizations quickly mobilized to meet this need, developing innovative solutions like pop-up pantries throughout York County to provide contactless service, and offering a bright spot of hope for many of the families they served. These grants have enabled them to continue supporting our friends and neighbors most in need.

THE COVID-19
RESPONSE
FUND RAISED
MORE THAN

\$1,195,000

AND HAS
GRANTED

\$771,239!



12
ORGANIZATIONS
DISTRIBUTED

**5.4 MILLION
POUNDS OF
FOOD TO
93,000
HOUSEHOLDS**



Keeping Families in Their Homes

We were proud to partner with the following nonprofits to meet the housing crisis needs:

Community Progress Council CPC's nationally certified budget counselors worked with renters facing eviction and homeowners facing foreclosure, many of whom had no prior experience within these systems. The grant allowed CPC to create and implement a communications plan to encourage individuals and families to seek assistance with managing their finances during the economic crisis.

New Hope Ministries provided budget counseling and rental assistance for those who were at risk of being homeless because of loss of income due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Salvation Army of York provided crisis budgeting and rental assistance to help keep families in their homes.

CASA provided budgeting classes and rental assistance to individuals and families.

PA 211 connected York County residents to appropriate resources for housing, utilities and food security, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Code Blue Emergency Shelter, a 'cold weather only' shelter for the homeless during the harsh winter months.



PA 211 SAW A **32% INCREASE IN CALLS FOR HOUSING ASSISTANCE, COMPARED TO 2019.**

CALLS FOR FOOD AND UTILITY ASSISTANCE ALSO INCREASED BY 25% - 27%.

 
YORK COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION United Way of York County

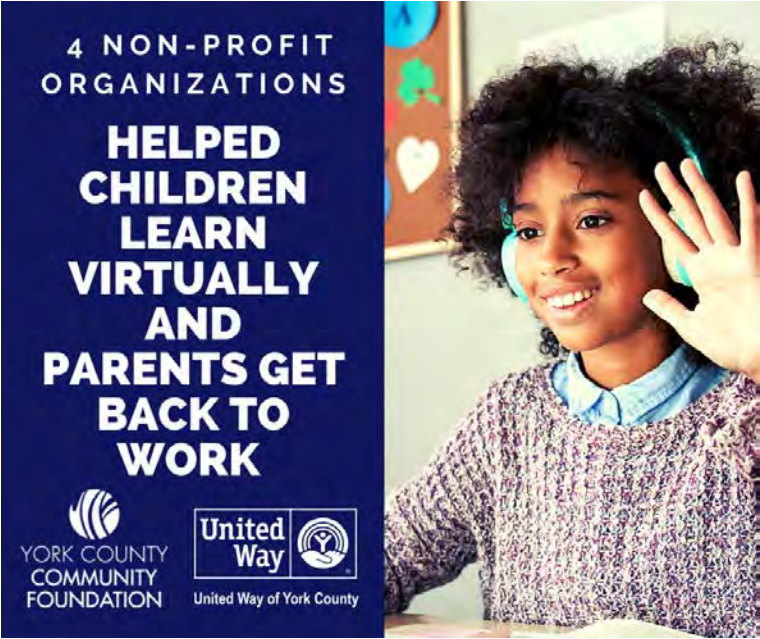
Another grant allowed CPC to distribute up to \$4.4 million in CARES Rent Relief Program funding, leveraging local support to disseminate critical federal funds to keep families in their homes. CPC was identified by York County and the Pennsylvania Housing & Finance Agency (PHFA) to process applications for Rent Relief Assistance in York County.



MORE THAN 683 FAMILIES RECEIVED RENTAL ASSISTANCE

THROUGH 6 ORGANIZATIONS

 
YORK COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION United Way of York County



Supporting Childhood Education

The education of our youngest community members changed significantly during the COVID-19 pandemic and posed challenges for educators and families. Childcare centers needed to expand care for school-aged children who participated in virtual learning.

Recognizing these challenges and the financial strain that came along with implementing new programming, the York County COVID-19 Response Fund expanded its priorities to include school-aged childcare.

The fund awarded \$50,000 to four York County nonprofits serving children who are were learning virtually. We also awarded an \$80,000 grant to Child Care Consultants to provide support to York County early childhood education centers with recruitment and onboarding of staff to address the staffing crisis. The funds were used to purchase computers, increase staff, and create safe spaces for the children.

Childcare grants were awarded to:



Hanover Area YMCA for its School-Aged COVID Care.



York Jewish Community Center for its School- Aged Childcare Program.



YWCA York for its York's School-Aged Child Care Virtual Support Hub.



YMCA EduCare, for its childcare programs to empower youth.

“Each program selected for funding supports a school district engaged in hybrid or virtual learning, serves 20 or more students, and has received top scores in the Keystone STARS quality rating program at the state level.

“Using these criteria, we ensure that grants provide the best care and education for our young people.” Lise Levin, Vice President for Community Investment for YCCF.



As a new member to the York County Community Foundation team, I have been amazed at the agility of the Foundation to confront emerging community crises and needs. The Foundation team immediately responded to the COVID-19 pandemic by both raising non-endowed funds for immediate grantmaking and bringing together advisory groups of nonprofits to maximize the impact of grants to those on the front lines of York County's COVID response. As you can see from the stories shared in this newsletter, the Foundation's efforts both sustained and enhanced efforts to mitigate the effects of the pandemic in York. The Foundation is also assisting in implementing lessons learned so that York County is better positioned for success.

What is exceptional about the York County Community Foundation's response to this crisis is threefold. First, is the generous response from all of you in the York community to our call to action. We thank you for your willingness to respond immediately to help your neighbors in need. Second, was the unrestricted funding available from the Fund for York County (FFYC) that was invested in the Covid 19 Response Fund, unrestricted funding that was only available thanks to generous donors who recognized the importance of flexible funding. Finally, the Foundation's ability to act, assess, pivot, and re-act was extraordinary. The Foundation acted quickly, collaborated closely with partners, and involved community organizations in decision making.

Reflecting on YCCF's 60th Anniversary this year, I learned how the Foundation began, grew, and evolved into a trusted and valued cornerstone of the York community. I realized that this is a result of the courage of YCCF to do what is necessary to create a thriving York County while also being willing to step back and engage those who are most affected by the challenges we face.

The story of the COVID-19 Response Fund is one way the FFYC responds to the community's greatest needs. It was this realization that led to my husband's and my decision to start the Mary Kay and John Bernosky Fund for York County. I hope you agree that there is value in having an endowed fund for our community and invite you to join me in making a gift to YCCF's Fund for York County.

Please reach out to me to learn more about this and other ways you can support the Community Foundation. We cannot do this important work without you!



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