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Community Foundation Dedicates \$1 Million to Human Services Agencies

Foundation will match donations and make grants to meet urgent infrastructure needs of human services agencies due to COVID-19

LANSING, MICH. – The Capital Region Community Foundation has announced it will dedicate \$1 million to human services agencies stressed due to COVID-19, helping to meet infrastructure needs such as staffing and technology. The Community Foundation will use its \$1 million to match new donations for these efforts, leveraging even more resources to help human services agencies throughout Ingham, Eaton and Clinton counties.

“While the Capital Area United Way focuses on meeting the urgent needs of individuals directly due to COVID-19, the Community Foundation will focus on meeting the needs of our nonprofit partners as we work together in this crisis,” said Dennis Flieman, president and CEO of the Community Foundation.

To support individuals in crisis, people can donate to the Capital Area United Way's [Emergency Relief Fund](https://www.micauw.org/emergency-fund) (<https://www.micauw.org/emergency-fund>). To support human services nonprofits, people can donate to the [COVID-19 NONPROFIT SUPPORT](https://www.ourcommunity.org/donorservices/ourfunds?fn=COVID-19+Nonprofit+Support) (<https://www.ourcommunity.org/donorservices/ourfunds?fn=COVID-19+Nonprofit+Support>), which will match donations dollar-for-dollar up to \$1 million.

“We have a great working relationship with the United Way,” said Laurie Baumer, executive vice president of the Community Foundation. “The Community Foundation wants to fill gaps rather than duplicate the United Way's efforts.”

The Community Foundation will be extending invitations to human services agencies to apply for a grant. Qualified agencies will be those that provide food, shelter, medical and mental health care, and support for the homeless. The Community Foundation will deploy multiple waves of grants based on the timing of agency needs.

“We hope to make our first wave of grants within two weeks,” Baumer said. “But many agencies don't know what they need yet, so we want to be responsive to them over the long haul.”

For more information about donations and grants, email info@ourcommunity.org.

The Community Foundation is passionate about creating vibrant, thriving communities throughout Michigan's Capital Region. The Foundation serves donors to meet their personal charitable goals, supports area nonprofits with grants and coaching, and leads innovative projects that drive community growth. The Community Foundation (also known as the Capital Region Community Foundation) is a tax-exempt public charity that leads philanthropic solutions to build vibrant communities in Ingham, Clinton and Eaton counties.

