

June 30, 2020



**COVID-19 Response Fund Boulder County
Grantee Impact Report
March 13-May 13, 2020**

Overview

Community Foundation Boulder County's COVID-19 Response Fund was created on March 13, 2020, to support services to those who are most at risk of contracting the virus – and who are the most vulnerable in our community due to poverty, or being a part of an historically underserved population. To date, funding allocations have been based on the hypothesis that the crisis will unfold in three phases: Prevention, Intervention, Recovery.

Guiding Theory – A pandemic in three phases

Goal: Support services to those who are most at risk of contracting the virus *and* are the most vulnerable in our community due to poverty or being a part of an historically underrepresented population.

Identified populations: Unhoused, isolated, and vulnerable elders, people living in congregant living situations, and undocumented county residents.

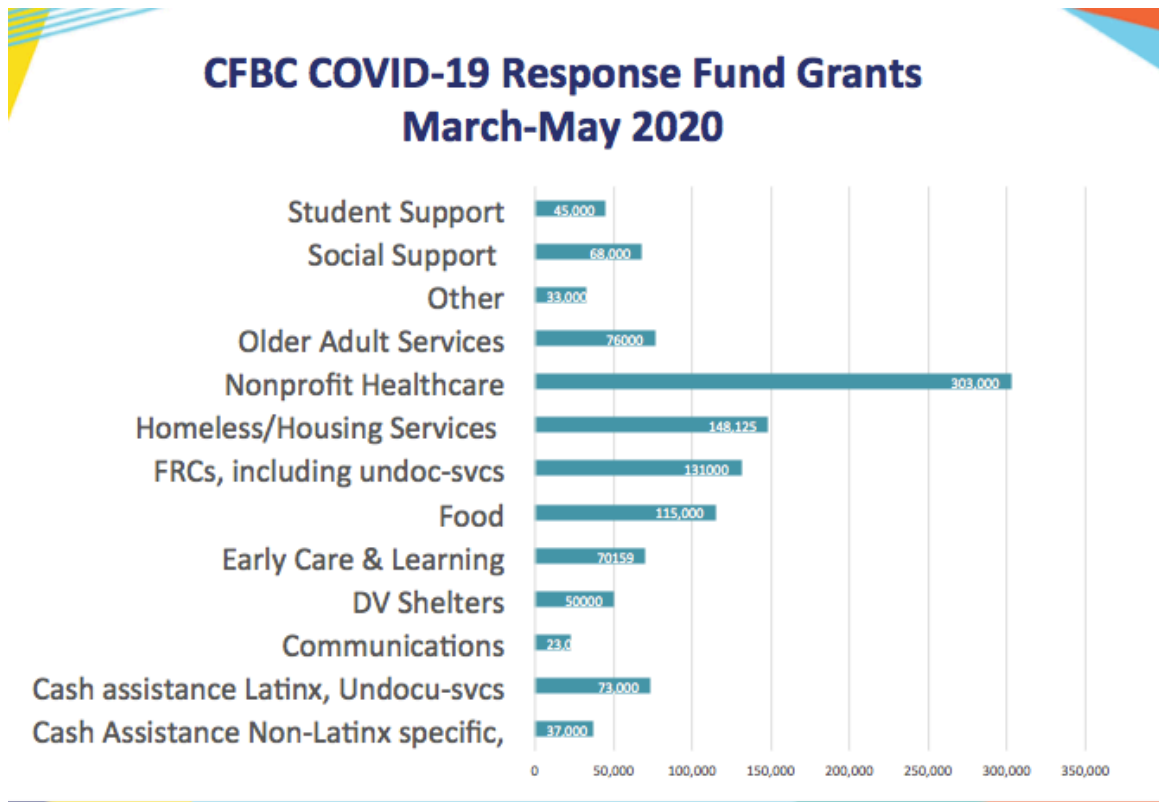
Projected phases of grantmaking: Prevention, Intervention, Recovery.

Prevention: Stay-at-home orders, resulting economic impacts, and social service needs.

Intervention: If prevention fails, increased infection rates, overwhelmed hospitals, and resulting social, health and economic impacts of a surge.

Recovery: Families, nonprofits, business of all sizes, and local governments will be struggling to stabilize.

During the Prevention Phase, your Community Foundation granted \$650K to Boulder County nonprofits and \$100K to the Colorado COVID Relief Fund. During the current Intervention Phase, the foundation’s targeted grantmaking totaled \$654,584 – including \$250,125 to community health clinics – to strengthen the collective capacity of our nonprofit sector to manage the economic and social impacts of the pandemic. Indeed, many organizations are facing their own economic challenges, even while they continue to provide often expanded services to keep pace with increased demand.



A list of grantees of the COVID-19 Response Fund Boulder County (Prevention and Intervention phases) is available on the Community Foundation’s website; and a sampling of inspiring stories of grantees’ impact may be found on our blog.

This report summarizes all grants to date, including how the grants are being allocated to strengthen nonprofit partnerships, and to uplift organizations that ensure essential services for community members who find themselves at the intersection of being most vulnerable to the virus and most impacted by inequity. In the words of our grantees, this report also includes a preview of anticipated future needs to help inform the foundation’s ongoing proactive response to the pandemic.

As of May 29, 2020, donors committed \$1.5M to the COVID-19 Response Fund Boulder County. Donations are still being accepted to support grantees of the fund’s Recovery Phase, which will likely be implemented in early autumn, 2020.

Grantees of the COVID-19 Response Fund Boulder County PREVENTION PHASE

Boulder County AIDS Project (BCAP)

“Funding helps provide essential general operating expenses supporting HIV care services to people living with HIV, and prevention services for people at risk of acquiring HIV and/or HCV.”

By the numbers

Grant funding supports essential general operating expenses needed to serve 280 people living with – or at risk of acquiring – HIV or HCV in Boulder County in 2020.

Anticipated future needs

“BCAP’s prevention staff have made necessary adjustments to programming to support the health of people most at risk of acquiring HIV and HCV. BCAP’s ability to provide in-person HIV and HCV testing is on hold, although staff make referrals to medical facilities able to provide testing. As ‘shelter in place’ and ‘safer at home’ timelines extend, social distancing must continue to minimize the spread of COVID-19; at the same time, the need for people at risk of acquiring HIV to update their status continues, as does confirmatory testing and treatment if HIV-positive. As such, BCAP staff are working with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Boulder County Public Health, and Boulder Community Hospital Beacon Center for Infectious Diseases to follow recommended protocols to make at-home HIV test kits with remote pre- and post-test counseling available to people in our community.”

Boulder Food Rescue

“Funding helps provide supplies to make our No-Cost Grocery programs safer (e.g., sanitation supplies, and supplies to implement door-to-door food delivery or grab-‘n’-go food distribution); pay No-Cost Grocery program coordinators stipends for their extra work and additional risk; and hazard pay staff who are working, but not working from home.”

By the numbers

Grant funding helps serve some 2K people, including some 765 families.

Anticipated future needs

“Continued donations of food, and continued financial support from funders and financial donors. Grocery donations are down since COVID-19. So far, this hasn’t negatively impacted our programs, even with the increased need, because a number of our recipients are closed or cannot accept donations. This includes deliveries that would normally go to schools, daycares, and meal programs that are closed, and food pantries that cannot accept our produce deliveries because they are focused on distributing shelf stable food and feeding people on a tremendous scale. But when these communities return to operation or can accept our donations again, we won’t be able to meet demand with current donated food amounts. Additionally – because we have a surplus of volunteer couriers, and because there is increased need in the economic reality of COVID-19 – we would like to establish new programs to meet the needs of communities we aren’t reaching through the existing NCGPs. Because we are uncertain if we’ll be able to procure enough donated food to meet the increased need of COVID-19, we are exploring what it would look like to purchase food from distributors or local growers – something we’ve never done before.”

Boulder Shelter for the Homeless

“Funding supports the purchase of necessary supplies for ensuring the safety of our staff and clients: disinfectant, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), etc. Funding also provides shift bonuses to our staff as a form of hazard pay.”

By the numbers

Grant funding supports implementation of a \$3/hour shift incentive for direct line staff. “At any given time, there are between two and six staff on shift. The shelter employs a small team, and is reliant on these folks to ensure that we can open our doors each night: providing them with adequate access to PPE, and offering a small financial incentive helps ensure they will remain healthy and available.”

Anticipated future needs

“Support for implementing a contingency plan, should the shelter need to temporarily close due to COVID-19 exposure. This could involve hotel vouchers, camping kits, meal service, hand washing and hygiene access, etc.”

Bridge House

“Funding helps support 1) essential staff including hazard pay for frontline staff in all programs, 2) quarantine preparedness for our Ready to Work House, and 3) homeless prevention of newly housed individuals.”

By the numbers

“In Boulder, Ready to Work has 44 trainees who are still working in essential businesses of providing meals for people who are food insecure and supplemental sanitation for the City of Boulder. We have a COVID-19 mitigation plan in case of an outbreak and additional supplies are needed. There are 116 graduates of Ready to Work – many are being furloughed or they were laid off and they now have immediate financial needs such as food and rent as to not become homeless again.”

Anticipated future needs

“Continuation and sustainability during the COVID-19 pandemic – from a bonus/hazard pool for our frontline staff at all Bridge House programs to funds that offset earned revenue losses to quarantine preparedness, and flexible funds for the needs of newly housed people.”

Community Food Share (CFS)

“Funding ensures procurement and distribution of food to the food insecure of Boulder County.”

By the numbers

Grant funding helps provide some 30K meals.

Anticipated future needs

“Continuing to have the resources – monetary, food, and staff/volunteers – to meet the record-breaking need in our community.”

Cultivate

“Funding supports a temporary staff member to keep up with the increased demand of our grocery delivery program. With the number of orders and clients having more than doubled in two weeks, additional staff was required to respond to the increased demand.”

By the numbers

Grant funding serves 50 people with 200 grocery deliveries.

Anticipated future needs

“Continued funding to keep the additional full-time staff member and one part-time staff member on payroll until this pandemic is over. With the number of new clients increasing exponentially each week, these additional staff members are critical to our ability to continue to increase the number of clients we serve, weekly.”

Emergency Family Assistance Association (EFAA)

“Funding provides emergency financial assistance for rent to families affected by the Coronavirus outbreak who may otherwise fall through the cracks of the state/federal safety-net, including undocumented residents of Boulder.”

By the numbers

Grant funding provides 12 families with \$1K emergency financial assistance for rent.

Anticipated future needs

“Securing sufficient financial resources to provide the level of financial support we’ve set out to provide during this critical period.”

Homeless Outreach Providing Encouragement (HOPE)

“In response to COVID-19, we’ve increased our hours by 139 this week, and added to our present services a day shelter, 7 days a week, with showers, hot meals, internet, medical resources, and a place to rest for all who are homeless.”

By the numbers

Grant funding serves ~300 new people experiencing homelessness.

Anticipated future needs

“One concern we are meeting daily is assessing how many hours to ask of staff. We want to be sure we have the resources to keep our doors open from this moment until we are on the other side of the pandemic.”

Longmont Meals on Wheels (LMOW)

“Funding supports the increased costs LMOW is seeing during this emergency. Not only is the agency seeing a rapid increase in new clients, but LMOW is also dealing with a doubling of food costs with its emergency model.”

By the numbers

Grant funding provides approximately 1K meals.

Anticipated future needs

“When we’re to the point when it’s time to start lifting restrictions, there may be a continued deep-seated fear among our older population. This could not only hurt LMOW’s pool of volunteers, who often are older themselves; but LMOW’s clients are already isolated, and will likely struggle to allow socializing back into their lives.”

Lyons Emergency & Assistance Fund (LEAF)

“Because of staggering need, LEAF is increasing its Basic Needs grants fund by 13,333% for the next three months – from \$3K to \$40K. The Community Foundation grant supports this funding, helping to keep people in their homes during this time of financial crisis.”

By the numbers

Grant funding supports LEAF to partner with clients and other local agencies to help fund 5-7 rent payments for the most at-risk families in Lyons.

Anticipated future needs

“Depending on how long this crisis continues, we will need additional funding and food sources.”

Outreach United Resource Center, Inc.

“Funding provides basic needs assistance, such as food and rent/utility assistance to undocumented participants.”

By the numbers

Grant funding helps 12 families with \$1K per family toward rent.

Anticipated future needs

“We have urgent need for rent/utility assistance since the longer people are out of work, the more difficult it becomes for them to pay the high costs of housing in the St. Vrain Valley.”

Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley

“Funding supplements staff compensation, motel stays for shelter overflow due to distancing practices, and food boxes and gift cards for clients who have lost employment and are in dire need of assistance.”

By the numbers

Grant funding helps provide food boxes (including two \$25 gift cards for flexible spending) to ~10 households per week, serving ~25 individuals; as well as additional payroll costs in a two-week pay period, totaling \$3,225.

Anticipated future needs

“We expect that the economic recovery from the pandemic will be a long climb back to previous levels. Victims of abuse are particularly hard hit because they have been denied financial resources, job opportunities, education, and – often – working vehicles, leaving them and their children in extremely precarious situations. We are most concerned about keeping current and future clients stable so that they are less likely to return to their abusive and increasingly lethal situations. This means meeting basic needs, providing rental assistance, and connecting with community resources – as well as meeting legal and emotional needs.”

Second Wind Fund of Boulder County

“Funding provides mental health therapy to uninsured or underinsured at-risk suicidal youth in Boulder County. The child and their family will never see a bill for the therapy sessions.”

By the numbers

Grant funding provides 71 therapy sessions to youth.

Anticipated future needs

“We need to keep our doors open so we can continue serving the uninsured and underinsured at-risk youth who are struggling with suicide. We believe that – once COVID-19 settles a little – we’re going to have a mental health crisis on our hands. We want to be fiscally prepared to help our most vulnerable populations when this crisis emerges.”

**Grantees of the COVID-19 Response Fund Boulder County
INTERVENTION PHASE**

Association for Community Living in Boulder & Broomfield Counties

“Funding supports payroll costs so that we can continue to provide accurate/accessible information to people with intellectual or developmental disabilities (IDD) and their families; and protect and advocate for their human rights at a time when they face many challenges, such as potential medical rationing, lack of access to supports, slowdowns due to inefficient systems that are hard to navigate, remote learning for students with IDD, and overwhelmed families/caregivers. Funding also helps the ACL transition to remote technology to communicate with the people we serve, our community partners, and among the team.”

By the numbers

Grant funding helps serve some 300 people. “Advocacy, support groups, training, and public policy/systems advocacy also impact whole families and the wider community, so the actual number of people impacted is hard to isolate.”

Anticipated future needs

“We need to identify what information technology, services, training, and support the people we serve need in order to benefit from telehealth and other remote services, and also to participate in their community. Our sense is that our new normal requires ongoing use of technology in a way we have not seen in the past.”

Attention Homes

“Funding provides staff with additional hazard pay to keep our programs open and running for at-risk and homeless youth in Boulder County. We are also providing additional staff for Chase House, as our residential program youth transition to online education.”

By the numbers

Grant funding helps support 80 youth directly served by Attention Homes staff during this crisis.

Anticipated future needs

“Getting youth at Chase House successfully transitioned to online education; keeping all 40 residents of Attention Home apartments healthy in such a close space; providing emergency shelter to minors, and deciding when we can make shelter available to older clients again; and deciding when we can open drop-in services and resume street outreach.”

Boulder Shelter for the Homeless

“Funding helps support spending ~\$3,500 per week in shift bonuses for our staff in recognition of the increased health risk associated with COVID-19. Additional funds support the purchase of PPE for our staff, primarily; and clients, secondarily (as available).”

By the numbers

“At the time the funds were received, we were sheltering up to 160 adults per night. The capacity has since been reduced to improve social distancing within the dorms. The capacity will be 90 per night effective May 1.”

Anticipated future needs

“Funding to cover hotel expenses and continued costs for PPE, meals, and staff shift bonuses.”

Boulder Shelter for the Homeless

Funding supports the purchase of PPE for staff and clients, and provides shift bonuses for frontline staff.

By the numbers

“Shift bonuses are paid at the rate of \$5 per hour, resulting in ~\$500 per day in incremental expense; and PPE is approximately \$250 per day. Grant funding covers these incremental expenses to keep shelter staff healthy for 13 days, during which we provide up to 2,080 bed nights of shelter.”

Anticipated future needs

“Continuing to maintain a safe and healthy environment for our staff and clients as systems change in response to the expansion of what ‘safe’ looks like, and as the community gradually re-opens.”

Bridge House

“Funding helps expand Bridge House services, and fill the deficit caused by the slowing of our earned revenue.”

By the numbers

Grant funding helps support 44 Ready to Work trainees in Boulder, and 75 Path to Home shelter and meal clients.

Anticipated future needs

“Making sure that the individuals we moved out of homelessness do not become homeless again due to lost jobs and an inability to pay for basics, such as rent, utilities, and food.”

Coal Creek Meals on Wheels

“Funding covers the cost of increased demand – safety supplies, food, packaging, etc.”

By the numbers

Grant funding supports the delivery of more than 936 meals each week to more than 200 clients in East Boulder County.

Anticipated future needs

“Continued increased demand. We have already seen a 67% increase in weekly meal deliveries, and we continue to receive requests for meals each day. At some point, we may hit our maximum capacity in the kitchen, and we’ll have to find creative solutions to continue to serve clients in need.”

Colorado Friendship

“Funding supports the purchase of non-perishable food. We pack this food into bags, which are distributed to low-income children at school for them to eat at home over the weekend when they do not have access to the school lunch.”

By the numbers

Grant funding ensures 2K bags of food to feed low-income children on weekends.

Anticipated future needs

“For our Meals on the Street Program, we bring a trailer to Boulder every Sunday evening where we provide a hot meal and clothing to people experiencing homelessness. We have modified this program to limit contact, but we continue to serve each Sunday. We are in need of more men’s warm clothing (e.g., pants, sweatshirts, jackets, and coats). Donations are low as people do not want to venture out, and thrift stores are closed for low-cost shopping (which is how we usually fill the gaps).”

Community Food Share (CFS)

“Funding helps support the purchase and transportation of food supplies, the repackaging and distribution of that food, and the critically important task of cleaning and sanitizing to keep staff, volunteers, and participants safe.”

By the numbers

Grant funding helps support the cost of a commercial truckload of food, containing 42,500 pounds of food, to Community Food Share’s Louisville-based warehouse.

Anticipated future needs

“Food procurement is an ongoing urgent need and concern. Overall, Community Food Share distributed 1.1M pounds of food in March, a 48% increase compared to March 2019. At the same time, donations of food are at an all-time low, which means we must generate additional funds to purchase an unprecedented amount of food. In 2019, Community Food Share purchased an average of 48K pounds of food each month; in March 2020, we purchased 163K pounds of food, a 233% increase. Community Food Share estimates needing at least an additional \$350K in revenue to meet the community’s need for food support in the months ahead.”

El Comité de Longmont, Inc.

“Funding supports the OUR Center to provide rental, utilities, and medical financial assistance to El Comité clients; funding further supports El Comité client intake.”

By the numbers

Grant funding helps serve ~17-20 families.

Anticipated future needs

“More funds to help families. This crisis is lasting longer for folks in the restaurant and housekeeping/cleaning businesses. They are not able to get back to work, and – because they are undocumented – they can’t get assistance elsewhere.”

Emergency Family Assistance Association (EFAA)

“Funding provides immediate financial assistance for rent to families and individuals, including undocumented households, who unable to meet basic needs as a result of the coronavirus outbreak.”

By the numbers

Grant funding provides 10 families with \$1K in emergency financial assistance for rent.

Anticipated future needs

“Our most urgent concern is how the pandemic will impact our fundraising during the fall giving season, in which EFAA raises ~60% of its annual operating revenue. The challenge is budgeting for the coming year; and maintaining a higher level of financial support to the community, while not knowing what will come in down the line.”

Harvest of Hope Pantry

“Funding supports the purchase of more food to serve its clients. The pantry is relying more on purchased food than donated food right now, and costs have increased.”

By the numbers

Grant funding provides food for some 3,200 pantry visits, including both individuals and families.

Anticipated future needs

“As the economic turmoil continues, we anticipate more need in our community for the pantry’s services, and we are concerned about being able to meet this need.”

Hopelight Medical Clinic

“Funding protects our staff and meets the various needs of our patients. We see more than 2K low-income and uninsured patients that live in Boulder County. We also see 3,450 Medicaid patients.”

By the numbers

Grant funding helps support 5,630 patients.

Anticipated future needs

“Most concerning is our patients’ long-term lack of access to healthcare. Patient healthcare literacy is already low, and it’s likely that we’re going to see an even more complicated health system for our patients to navigate.”

Imagine!

“Funding supports the extenuating financial needs of seven group home employees. Employees on the frontlines who provide direct services have faced challenges, including having their own children at home and needing to find reliable, safe childcare while they meet the needs of people with intellectual disabilities.”

By the numbers

Grant funding to stabilizing these employees positively impacts 34 group home residents.

Anticipated future needs

“Our next concern is the shift from Shelter in Place to Safer at Home, and how it will impact people with intellectual disabilities and their families. We serve a population that may be more susceptible to severe COVID-19 outcomes. We will closely monitor changes/rollbacks to Medicaid and state guidelines that could affect our ability to provide services safely.”

The Inn Between of Longmont, Inc.

“Funding provides emergency financial assistance for those with lost income to subsidize rent, childcare, transportation, food/hygiene costs, and other unexpected expenses. We anticipate at least 50% of income-earning households have become unemployed resulting in \$7,031 in monthly rental revenue loss for our agency.”

By the numbers

Grant funding provides April or May rental subsidies for 10 households (30 individuals).

Anticipated future needs

“Our next most urgent need will continue to be rental subsidy assistance, and funding to increase our emergency Starfish Fund to include assistance for all financial challenges brought on by the COVID-19 crisis. The requests will increase significantly, and for broader needs – from funding for childcare costs to prescriptions, medical expenses, and more.”

Longmont Meals on Wheels (LMOW)

“Funding supports the increased discrepancy between what clients can afford to pay for a meal with support services, and what it costs the agency right now during its COVID-19 response.”

By the numbers

Grant funding helps provide 568 meals under LMOW’s emergency model.

Anticipated future needs

“Re-opening slowly and carefully!”

Mother House

“Funding provides pay for additional staff, and supports the purchase of additional needed goods.”

By the numbers

Grant funding pays for 100 hours of emergency staffing; as well as care baskets for 20 families, three times.

Anticipated future needs

“We are hearing about community-wide formula shortages, and would like to purchase 100 cans at a cost of \$3,900.”

Nederland Food Pantry

“Funding supports the purchase of food from any available avenue – even grocery stores.”

By the numbers

Grant funding supports the distribution of food to 170 households each week.

Anticipated future needs

“Our urgent need will be the same. We are only in the beginning of this event, and it’s really going to hit hard when folks no longer have any grace periods on their bills. When all comes due, we expect to see even more households needing our services.”

Outreach United Resource Center, Inc.

“Funding supports requests for rent/utility/mortgage assistance. We anticipate growing requests as unemployment due to COVID-19 continues.”

By the numbers

Grant funding provides \$500 in rent assistance for 20 households.

Anticipated future needs

“We will likely need more funding for DFA requests as the crisis continues and more people are out of work. As fund requests increase, we will likely begin to run low on funding for rent/mortgage utility assistance. Between March 16 (when we started COVID-19 response) and April 10, our funds disbursed increased by 450%. We’re also seeking funds to provide salaries for our 13 teachers and director since the closure of our preschool, Aspen Center for Child Development, will cause a complete loss of revenue for several months. We also experienced loss of revenue (~\$12K) from our postponed Empty Bowls fundraiser.”

Recovery Café Longmont

“Funding supports our virtual services to the community.”

By the numbers

“Since shifting to virtual services, we have provided more than 10 hours of phone support; facilitated eight peer-supported Recovery Circles; and uploaded five School for Recovery classes. An estimated 40 individuals have accessed these virtual services.”

Anticipated future needs

“We are deeply concerned about the impact the pandemic is having on people’s mental health. Connection is a primary human need, and the people we serve are disproportionately impacted by the economic, health, and social disruptions resulting from the coronavirus. They need our services, now more than ever.”

Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence

“Funding support helps meet the \$10K per week in unbudgeted and unprecedented expenditures that SPAN has experienced since mid-March. These costs include additional food purchases, staff costs, and sanitizing and cleaning Shelter; as well as direct support to SPAN clients for hotel rooms for individuals and families who cannot access Shelter, rent, utilities, food, and other emergency basic needs.”

By the numbers

“Since the onset of the COVID-19 crisis, 12 women and 14 children have found safe haven at SPAN’s Shelter. SPAN is also providing three individuals and one family with hotel rooms, meals, resource navigation, and emotional support, who cannot access SPAN’s Shelter due to capacity issues or because they are under quarantine. Many of SPAN’s Transitional Services clients have been financially impacted, losing their livelihoods, often the type of contract or ‘gig’ employment that makes them ineligible for immediate relief; many of these clients are also at-risk and reluctant to leave their homes due to pre-existing health concerns, immigration issues, or a lack of transportation. Since mid-March, the Kitchen Manager at SPAN’s Emergency Shelter has packed as many as 15 emergency food boxes per week for these vulnerable individuals and their families, feeding more than 115 survivors and their children.”

Anticipated future needs

“Financial support for general operating expenses is our most urgent and ongoing need as we strategize and collaborate with community partners to meet the challenges that lie ahead. The need for all of SPAN’s services – from immediate crisis mitigation via intervention and emergency shelter, to the long-term emotional and logistical support that research shows is required for positive outcomes – is keener than ever, and growing. At the same time, SPAN’s financial ability to meet that increased need has never been more challenged. Examples of the fiscal impact of COVID-19 on SPAN’s revenues are the now-cancelled spring and summer special events that were expected to generate ~\$65K in unrestricted general operating funds.”

Sister Carmen Community Center

“Funding supports direct financial assistance to families, including rent and utility assistance, and purchasing food or supplies in the food bank.”

By the numbers

Grant funding provides ~\$800 per financial assistance request per household, keeping 12-15 families from becoming homeless. “Food bank purchases are highly dependent on *if* we end up purchasing food and from where, totaling some 8K lbs. of food per day to 200 households per day.

Anticipated future needs

“Additional financial assistance funding.”

