

United Way of Washtenaw Count FY20 Community Relief Fund Grantees

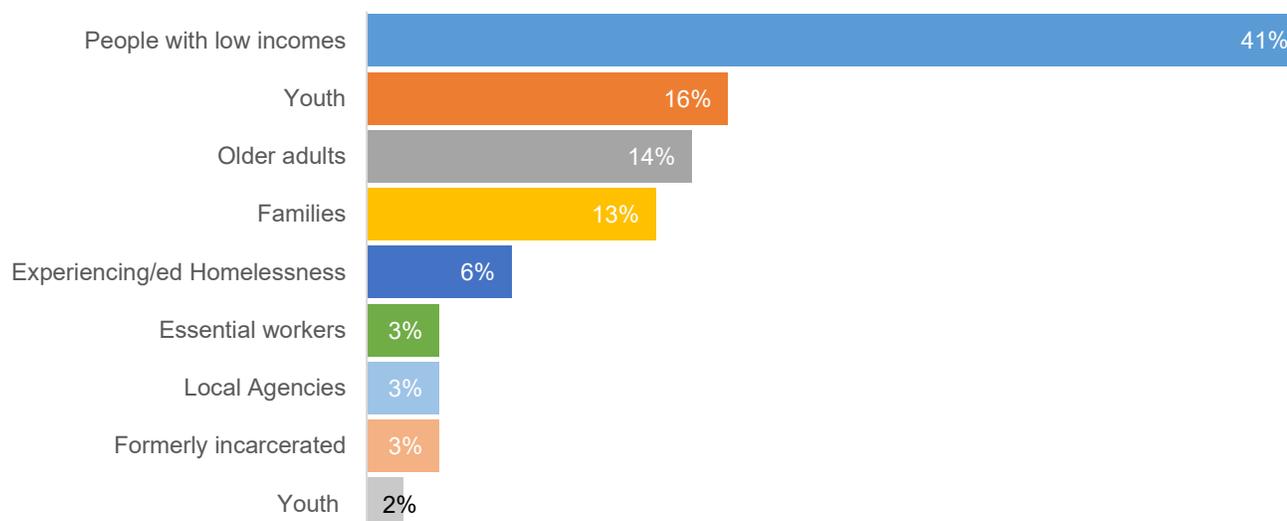
United Way of Washtenaw County awards Community Relief Fund grants which provide support for programs, projects, and initiatives that prioritize the immediate, emergency, and unanticipated community needs resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

This year's investments were made to organizations support a diverse population during the COVID-19 pandemic.

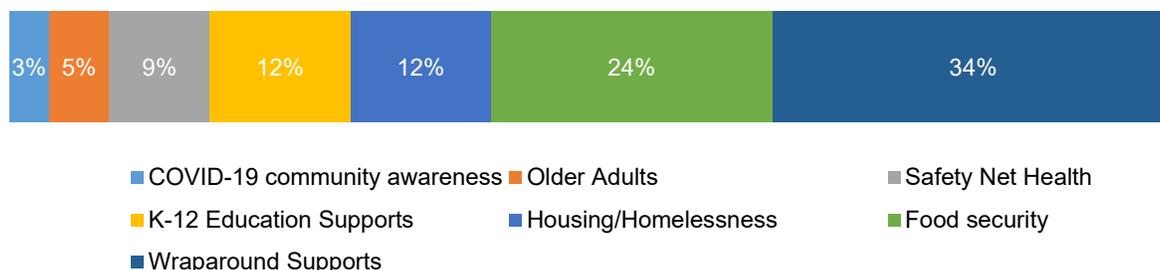
Quick Facts

- **\$1,050,000:** Total awarded
- **78%:** Funding to Ypsilanti zip codes 48197/98
- **15%:** Funding to rural Washtenaw County
- **64:** # of grants awarded
- **75%:** Funding explicitly serving communities and people of color
- **39%:** Grants to agencies led by people of color

41% of Grants Supported the the Population of **People with low incomes.**



34% of Grants Funded the Priority Area of Wraparound Supports.



Narrative Questions Qualitative Analysis and Summary

After qualitative analysis and coding, the following major and secondary themes arose from the Narrative portion of the final report.

Grant funds were deployed in the following ways:

Major Theme: 33%, *Funds were used to support Wraparound Services*

“The food security work we are doing has been the most increased throughout our agency. As of mid March and in the context of not knowing what was going on this summer, we almost overnight doubled the traffic our food program experienced and it never relented. Normally we are getting 500 visits throughout the month, now we are doing 1200-1250 since mid March. Some of the other programs stayed like this and some fluctuated but ours kept going. Most were coming out of our Bryant Community Center for our Ypsi and Ann Arbor folks. We had a line around the corner for most of the entire day, even socially distanced. –Community Action Network

“At the outset of the Pandemic, we recognized that there would be increased demand for our services, as a greater number of prisoners received parole. However, as the Pandemic went on, it became clear that group mentoring, group training of new mentors, even one-on-one mentoring would be severely restricted. These challenges did not in any way change the growing need. So we set to work evolving programs that would help to meet our community's needs.” –A Brighter Way

Secondary Theme: 23%, Funds were used to support Food Security

“...We have been able to use those dollars in the ways that we have imagined. We have pivoted in our organization to distribute food into our community at no cost. We have used those dollars in many hours, growing the food, and distributing the food. We haven’t needed to use any of it to relation to transportation because we deliver right where we are located. Folks come and pick it up....” –We the People Opportunity Farm

“...Within days of the stay-at-home order, every client was given 2 weeks of frozen Tradition meals (thank you to Trio), 1 case of Ensure, & 2 weeks of shelf stable meals. We put safety measures in place by reducing volunteers and going to an all-staff delivery model (we are now slowly resuming volunteers). To ensure social distancing we no longer enter the home and leave the meals at the door or just over the threshold. Staff take a daily health & wellness survey and we use PPE every day..” –Ypsilanti Meals on Wheels

In regard to this funding, grantees are most proud of:

Major Theme: 53%, We are most proud of our ability to pivot our services in response to the pandemic

“I am most proud of how fast we got this up and running and did not skip a beat.” Thanks to the funding provided by this grant award, no disruption in the provision of food was experienced, and the increased need during a crisis could be met with an emergency response. JFS is also proud of the way this grant helped the agency see to it that our county’s most vulnerable were assisted. The grant helped JFS to provide food to the people of Washtenaw County during a global pandemic that compelled everyone—and especially older adults and the medically vulnerable—to “stay home, stay safe.” –Community Action Network

“We are proud that we were able to provide support to existing community organizations, filling holes in resources and services that they did not necessarily have the ability to fill given the sudden increased community need. We were able to fill some of these holes by maintaining maximum flexibility...” –Ypsilanti Community Schools

Secondary Theme: 34%, We are most proud of supporting and engaging our communities

*“.. We are most proud of [being] able to uplift the spirit of the communities and the ability to provide much needed resources.” –**Corner Health Center***

*“This grant truly matched our mission and vision, and helped us support our community at an increased and beneficial level. Additionally, the conversations started as a result of the outreach efforts during COVID-19 has helped us identify additional areas of need, and sparked a conversation and action on how we can best support our community moving forward. While the grant provided the funding for the initial need, the conversations and collaboration that occurred as a result, show the true power and success community partnerships can have in supporting community efforts.” –**Power of Predestiny Ministries (POP)***

Programs/Projects will be continued in the following ways:

Major Theme: 32%, Continue programming

*“Next steps is to keep delivering on an abbreviated meal delivery schedule and continued social distancing for the safety of our seniors. We believe it is important that until there is a vaccine we need to continue to provide limited physical interactions and we know our clients want that (I just which our federal funder understood that continued caution over frequency of days of delivery is the most important right now, especially as cases are on the rise again).” –**Avalon Housing***

*“With some financial stability in the last six months, we are able now to make some plans and commitments moving forward. We are taking on new interns. We are hiring a part-time administrative assistant. We are leasing new office space in the center of Ypsilanti (Centennial Center), where most of our clients live. This new location is close to transportation (bus) and offers space for individual and group mentoring.” –**Habitat for Humanity of Huron Valley***

Secondary Theme: 10%, Seek additional funding

*“School is going to be virtual until November at least. So I’ve actually been writing grants because for the children we have, it’s challenging for social workers and caregivers.. I am working on funds for educational programs for several different funders.” –**Girls Group***

*“The Barrier Buster program has existed since 2001, and we will continue to seek out funding to directly assist households in need across the County and alert and train social service agencies to access these funds. While this report has focused on the pandemic period, as of mid-August, Barrier Busters assistance year-to-date has seen a total of 679 households representing \$457,000 in direct assistance.” –**SafeHouse Center***

Most Significant Change among participants and/or organizations:

Major Theme: 36%, *Shifting programming in response to the pandemic*

“The most significant change was/is how we do business and interface with clients. With the United Way funding we were able to maintain our staff and provide service.” –Ann Arbor YMCA

“So much has changed! United Way funding helped us adapt quickly while continuing and upsizing services to meet the increased need. While things were still uncertain last April, our friends at United Way foresaw a perfect storm of decreased revenue, increased demand for services, and decreased volunteer help to meet the need. This turned out to be exactly what happened.” –Huron Valley Mutual Aide

Secondary Theme: 20%, *Collaboration and relationship building with clients and partners*

“We have always tried to have intergenerational programming at the center. This pandemic has shown us the importance of bringing the generations together. By partnering with universities and high schools, we are developing programs that can be of benefit to all generations. Through Generations United we will continue to explore these connections.” –Hope Medical Clinic

“More and deeper relationships. More new people than ever have come to the church to find resources-- transportation, food, supplies, showers, computer access etc. We have gotten more and more referrals from other organizations than we ever have before, and many people are just showing up because they'd heard about us directly from someone else we'd helped.” –Samaritis

COVID-19 Community Relief Fund Partners

United Way of Washtenaw County made 64 grants to 60 local organizations through this rapid response funding. Below is a listing of the agencies and groups that received grant awards to respond to community needs related to COVID-19.

A Brighter Way	Mentor2Youth
Ann Arbor Spanish Seventh-Day Adventist Church*	Mexiquenses in Michigan*
Ann Arbor YMCA	Michigan Ability Partners
Arbor Hospice	Milan Seniors for Healthy Living
Avalon Housing	New West Willow Neighborhood Association
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Washtenaw Co.	NEW: Solutions for Nonprofits
Buenos Vecinos	Ozone House
Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan*	Packard Health, Inc.
Community Action Network	Peace Neighborhood Center
Community Family Life Centers	Power of Predestiny Ministries*
Corner Health Center	SafeHouse Center
Dawn Farm*	Saline Area Social Service
Destiny and Purpose Community Outreach	Samaritas*
Educate Youth*	Shelter Association of Washtenaw County
Evangelical Homes of Michigan Foundation*	SOS Community Services
EMU Family Empowerment Center	St. Louis Center for Exceptional Children & Adults*
EMU Swoops Pantry*	Student Advocacy Center of Michigan
Faith in Action	Synod Community Services*
Food Gatherers	The Cream Incorporated*
Friends In Deed	Unified-HIV Health and Beyond
Girls Group	Variis Institute*
Growing Hope	Washtenaw County Office of Community and Economic Development
Habitat for Humanity of Huron Valley	Washtenaw Literacy
Hope Medical Clinic	Washtenaw My Brother's Keeper
Huron Valley Mutual Aid*	We The People Opportunity Farm
Huron Valley PACE*	Youth Justice Fund*
Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw Co.	Ypsi Local*
Journey of Faith Christian Church	Ypsilanti Community Schools
Joyful Treats Community Development Corp*	Ypsilanti Meals on Wheels
Lincoln Consolidated School District*	Ypsilanti Senior Center*

**Denotes agencies/groups not previously funded by United Way of Washtenaw County
For additional information about our Financial Stability work or United Way funding opportunities,
please visit uwgive.org or contact Bridget Herrmann, bherrmann@uwwashtenaw.org*