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# **RAPID RESPONSE EMERGENCY GRANTS OF UP TO $10,000**

# **TO ADDRESS COVID-19**

**Grants for Nonprofit Organizations in the Foundation’s Local Service Region**

**Applications Due by February 1, 2021**

**Grant Background**

As a community foundation, the [**Partnership for Better Health**](http://www.forbetterhealthpa.org/) strives to serve as a catalyst, advocate and collaborator to establish health as a shared priority, toward ensuring that everyone has what they need for good health. Our mission is to champion and invest in ideas, initiatives and collaborations that improve the health of the people and communities in our region. We work closely with key stakeholders throughout Central and Western Cumberland County, Perry County, Northern Adams County and the Greater Shippensburg Area.

In response to COVID-19, the Partnership for Better Health is making a third round of Rapid Response Emergency Grants available to local nonprofit organizations. Grants are expected to range between $1,000 and $10,000. **Funding priorities** include the five pressing issues below.

1. **Basic Health & Human Needs:** Grants are available to assist health and human service organizations in responding to the emergency needs of vulnerable community members by ensuring that they continue to have access to essential health services and related basic needs. Funds may also be used to offer increased mental health, substance use disorder and social-emotional services, and to ensure clean, protected or virtual settings for the delivery of these services.
2. **Emergency Responders:** Grants are available to assist nonprofit emergency service responders with the purchase of essential health supplies, protective gear and equipment that is specifically designed to keep them healthy and effective as they respond to the COVID-19 crisis. Applicants should include compelling scientific evidence of the effectiveness of any strategies that may be specific to your field.
3. **Safe Child Care Services:** Grants will assist child care related programs in meeting CDC guidelines to operate safely during the pandemic. Funding supports the purchase of sanitation supplies, personal protective equipment and the additional staffing needed to allow for adequate in-person supervision of smaller groups of children. Child care providers may be nonprofits or public schools and must be able to document adequate provision of services to low-income families.
4. **Homeless Residents**: Grants will help housing providers, recovery houses and shelters continue to respond to increased demand for emergency housing services and outreach, social distancing practices and safe quarantine environments.
5. **Newly Unemployed & Rental Assistance:** Grants will support agencies in assisting workers who have been laid off, lost income and/or become newly unemployed as a result of COVID-19. For people who live paycheck to paycheck, lost wages swiftly make paying for essential housing difficult to maintain. These grants will position nonprofits to provide direct financial assistance to help residents meet immediate needs, such as rent and mortgage payments. To maximize limited funds, individual grants of aid should not exceed one-time assistance of $800 per household. All grantees using funds for rental assistance are expected to make awards directly to landlords and must request the landlord or property manager’s tax ID number to ensure that landlords who own or manage multiple units/facilities are not incentivized more than twice.

Agencies assisting the newly under- and unemployed are expected to provide individuals with direct guidance on the host of resources and financial survival strategies that are now available to them through federal and state aid, as well as area social service agencies and our region’s 211 call center. All grant support to the newly unemployed should be accompanied by your agency’s sharing of high-quality information about employment assistance locations and local job opportunities, including [PA CareerLink's](file:///\\PFBH01\Foundation\Foundation%20Initiatives\Emergency%20Grants%20Coronavirus\PA%20CareerLink) employment assistance office in Carlisle.

**Eligible Applicants**

Organizations with significant experience serving vulnerable populations in the foundation’s geographic region of Central and Western Cumberland County, Perry County, Northern Adams County and Greater Shippensburg are invited to apply for grants of up to $10,000. Priority will be given (but is not limited) to applicants that:

1. Are nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations providing substantial services to people living in our [geographic service area](http://www.forbetterhealthpa.org/what-we-do/service-area/);
2. Have the ability to serve high-risk populations including older adults, people with underlying health conditions, Black and Latinx communities, low-income residents and health care workers;
3. Have a proven track record of success in providing emergency, health or human services to individuals in need;
4. Document the scientific effectiveness (evidence-base) of any new strategies, specialized equipment or tools to be used that are newly emerging or specific to your field of work;
5. Document a compelling strategy to mobilize funds efficiently and fairly within 90 days, including a lean and effective screening process to equitably award financial assistance grants, if applicable;
6. Do not duplicate other funds that are available to your organization through mandated, tax-funded services that you already provide, or county, state and federal emergency COVID-19 funds and Paycheck Protection Program grants; and
7. Are existing or previous community partners or grant agencies of the Partnership for Better Health.

All services and resource distribution must benefit local community members who live in Central and Western Cumberland County, Perry County, Northern Adams County and the Greater Shippensburg Area.

The foundation will require grantees to document the use of funds, numbers of people served, estimated impact and lessons learned using a simple two-page report template that will be provided upon award.

**To Apply for Funding**

Applications will be accepted through **February 1, 2021, with awards announced in early March.** The Partnership for Better Health accepts all applications online. Our electronic system is used for each step of the grant process, including completion of your application and final grant report. Please review these tips below before applying for the first time.

**Application Tips for New 2021 Emergency Grants**

* Determine if your organization and the project you are proposing meet our general eligibility requirements.
* Visit our online [grants management system](https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=cahwf).
  + If you’ve never used our system before, select “Create New Account.”
  + If you are a returning grantee, supply your email address and password to access the system.
  + Select "Apply" in the top navigation bar.
* On the next page, enter the following access code in the upper right corner – “COVID.”
* On the next page, select “Apply” in the Foundation Initiative box.
* Complete the Organizational Information:
  + Project Name
  + Project Description
  + Amount Requested
  + Geographic Area
  + Under **Funding Type**, select “Emergency”
  + Under **Core Funding Area**, select “Strategic Initiatives”
* Upload your completed “**Application Form & Budget for 2021 Emergency Grants**” (below) as a pdf document in our online system under “Project Information” and skip the “Evaluation Plan” and “Budget” sections.
* Under Attachments, only complete a W-9, scan as PDF and upload it where indicated.
* Once you submit your application, you will receive an automatic email reply from our grants system. One of our grants directors will be in touch with any clarifying questions.

**Zoom Information Session**

Interested applicants are welcome to attend the Partnership for Better Health’s **optional Zoom Information Session on Wednesday, January 13 from Noon to 1pm**. During this interactive session, our staff will provide an overview of this Request for Proposals (RFP) grants opportunity and openly respond to your questions. This written document is intended to be inclusive of all relevant information that applicants should know, making participation in the Zoom entirely optional. To register for the Zoom session, simply email: [Carol@ForBetterHealthPA.org](mailto:Carol@ForBetterHealthPA.org).

Feel free to direct preliminary grant questions to our Director of Grants & Public Policy, Carol Thornton ([Carol@ForBetterHealthPA.org](mailto:Carol@ForBetterHealthPA.org)), and/or to our Director of Health Promotion, Gail Witwer ([GWitwer@ForBetterHealthPA.org](mailto:GWitwer@ForBetterHealthPA.org)).



**APPLICATION FORM & BUDGET**

**for Winter 2021 Emergency Grants**

**Important Note to All Grant** **Writers:** Recognizing the urgency of the pandemic, this is a competitive, rapid grant review process. We aim to make all award decisions within 40 days. Depending on the number of grant requests submitted, our staff may not have time to follow up with you personally if our review committee has questions. If important details are missing from your application it may decrease your chances of receiving funding. Please make every effort to fully explain your funding needs, program or service plans and line-by-line budget details to justify your complete funding request.

**I. Organizational Overview**

*In just a couple of paragraphs, describe your organization’s mission, the population you serve, the complete geographic region to be served by this particular grant, and your* ***current*** *staff and/or volunteer capacity*.

**II. Program Needs**

*Describe the distinct challenges your organization and community face in addressing the threats of COVID-19 in Central PA and how this grant will help you to address them*.

**III. Program Strategies**

*Describe your program outreach or service delivery strategy for this grant. Please offer a detailed narrative in answering each of the following questions:*

1. *What programs or services will be provided through this grant? (Please clearly define any technical language that is commonly used within your field or that is unique to your specific grant request.)*
2. *Who will be directly served by this grant? How many people in our foundation’s* [geographic region](http://www.forbetterhealthpa.org/what-we-do/service-area/) *will be served?*
3. *How will you equitably identify, screen and/or track candidates for your assistance*?
4. *What is your timeline of activities for this grant? When do you anticipate funds will be expended*?

**IV. Budget**

*Provide a budget detailing how you intend to use the grant funds. Nonprofits are urged to be prudent and not apply for more funds than can be rapidly deployed within three months. Any unspent funds must be accounted for and returned to the foundation*.

***Sample Budget***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Expenses** | **Explanation** | **Amount** |
| Masks | 50 masks x $2 each | $100 |
| Meal Supplies for Families | 100 families x $10 each | $1,000 |
| Supplemental Staff Member | $15 per hour x 15 hours x 12 weeks | $2,700 |
| Rental Assistance | 15 households x $650 each | $9,750 |

**Budget Form**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Expenses | Explanation *(include quantities & price per item, if applicable)* | Amount |
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|  |  |  |
|  | **Total 🡪** |  |

**Budget Narrative**

*Please provide any additional information regarding the listed budget expenses and cost justification, if not stated elsewhere in the application.*