



South Jersey COVID-19 Response Fund: An Economic Relief and Recovery Strategy

ABOUT THE FUND

The COVID-19 pandemic is not just a health crisis. It is also an economic one that is already having and will continue to have lasting impacts on the lives of all South Jersey residents. To mitigate the negative effects of this pandemic, the Community Foundation of South Jersey (CFSJ) calls on the region to come together to support our neighbors.

Consistent with our mission to inspire generosity, manage and deploy permanent charitable assets, and exercise collaborative leadership to create a more equitable region, CFSJ created the South Jersey COVID-19 Response Fund as an opportunity for individuals and organizations alike to pool resources to address both the short-term and long-term impact of COVID-19 in local boroughs, counties, and the South Jersey region as whole.

With a priority on meeting the immediate needs of South Jersey residents, CFSJ recognizes that our trusted non-profit partners, who will remain on the frontlines of this evolving response, are best prepared to meet the wide range of needs of our diverse region. Already under-resourced and facing a growing demand for services (www.njnonprofits.org/PressRelease2020NonprofitSurvey.pdf) prior to this pandemic, they must now also deal with losses of revenue as a result of canceled events and services, disruptions to the daily lives of neighbors, and employees.

CFSJ's South Jersey COVID-19 Response Fund will support local non-profit agencies as they adapt internally and programmatically to assist neighbors and continue to deliver on their missions during this turbulent time. To do so, CFSJ will make a limited number of one-time program support grants of at least \$3,000 to 501(c)3 non-profit organizations that provide critical services tied directly to the economic security of South Jersey residents in Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Ocean, and Salem counties.

We anticipate having multiple waves of funding over the next several months to meet the needs of our region and will adjust our funding priorities accordingly as those needs move from triage to treatment and recovery. For more details on funding priorities and how to apply, see below.

If you are interested in contributing funds to CFSJ's South Jersey COVID-19 Response Fund, please visit www.southjerseyresponsefund.org.



GUIDANCE FOR DONORS

CFSJ invites donors to join us in this effort to ensure the South Jersey region is prepared to meet the evolving demands associated with this public health emergency and to recover more resilient than before the crisis.

Donors can make contributions online or learn about check, wire transfer, and donor advised fund options at www.southjerseyresponsefund.org. To ensure CFSJ can move resources as efficiently as possible and respond to needs of communities most impacted, restricted donations are not being considered at this time. The South Jersey COVID-19 Response Fund was created to coordinate as many resources as possible.

FUNDING PRIORITIES

CFSJ envisions three funding phases from the South Jersey COVID-19 Response Fund with prioritization of funds based on the evolution of response needs and the success of fundraising efforts. The first and primary priority of the South Jersey COVID-19 Response Fund will provide one-time program support grants of at least \$3,000 to eligible organizations to meet the immediate needs of South Jersey residents. In an effort to ensure resources are being moved directly to the residents in need, no more than fifteen percent (15%) of grant funds can be used to cover administrative costs.

Grants are intended to complement the work of public health officials, public agencies, and expand local capacity to address the acute needs of the crisis as efficiently as possible. These grants are NOT of the scale to support public institutions that are strained by increased demand for services.

Phase one (1) Triage - Immediate response to community-based non-profits that have increased demand for services from South Jersey residents due to COVID-19. The COVID-19 Response Fund will initially focus on non-profit organizations providing critical supports focused on economic security and services to South Jersey residents. Examples of the types of eligible non-profit organizations: community-based health clinics; food bank & food pantries; meal delivery programs; and homelessness programs.

Phase two (2) Treatment – Grants for human service non-profits that are modifying their delivery modes due to COVID-19 and need assistance to do so. Reduced access to a range of social services and programs in response to social distancing requirements and safety protocols. For example, youth centers, recreation centers, child care, senior services, adult daycare, community-based education programs.



Phase three (3) Recovery – These grants will fund non-profits facing extreme difficulty because of lost revenue due to closures and cancellations, as well as other business model challenges resulting from the pandemic and its aftermath.

APPLICATION PROCESS

In order to move resources quickly and not further burden organizations on the frontlines of the pandemic, there is no formal application process at this time, but communication and engagement from non-profit partners is expected. If your organization addresses one of the phases listed above, please prepare a document of no more than one-page outlining the mission and impact associated with the requisite phase: **Triage, Treatment, or Recovery**. Send submissions to CFSJ at COVID19@CommunityFoundationSJ.Org.

Funding decisions will be made in cooperation CFSJ's Community Leadership & Engagement committee and committed philanthropic partners. These partners will proactively identify potential grant recipients, solicit guidance from community advisors, and recommend final awards.

Funds will be released on a rolling basis as fundraising continues throughout the outbreak and recovery phases of the crisis. Our priority will be making it possible to move resources quickly to meet the immediate needs of South Jersey residents but adapt to evolving needs in subsequent funding phases.

CFSJ is committed to supporting the continued health of the broader South Jersey non-profit sector by raising enough resources to invest in the health and capacity of the sector. We will do this work in partnership with sector partners such as Council of New Jersey Grantmakers and the Center for Non-profits.