COVID-19 Response Fund, Re-opening Phase

Webinar for Nonprofits
July 8, 2020
Introductions

• Erika Frank, Senior Community Investments Officer, efrank@hfpg.org
• Amy Studwell, Senior Nonprofit Support Program Officer, astudwell@hfpg.org
• Dawn Grant, Senior Community Investments Officer, dgrant@hfpg.org
• Michael Wotorson, Senior Community Investments Officer, mwotorson@hfpg.org
I. Overview of initial COVID-19 Response Fund and transition to re-opening - Erika and Dawn

II. Process and application for the COVID-19 Response Fund - Re-opening Phase - Amy

III. Other strategic priority work through the end of 2020 - Michael and Dawn

IV. Your questions!
COVID-19 Response Fund Overview

• Since launching the Fund, it has received support of $4.1 million in addition to grantmaking dollars allocated by the Foundation itself.
• To date, 134 grants totaling $7,635,383 have been awarded, average grant size ~$57,000.
• Developed a streamlined process from application, review/approval, award/payment to reporting.
• Initial framework of the Fund:
  – Short-term emergency support for a three-month period
  – Flexible dollars to meet changing needs
  – Primary focus on basic human needs, including food distribution, health and mental health, direct assistance to low-income individuals, safety in congregate care settings (such as shelters and group homes), facilitation of distance learning.
COVID-19 Response Fund
Re-opening Phase

• More targeted support for expenses related to re-opening services safely, in-person and/or remotely.

• Expenses may include PPE, cleaning, small COVID-related capital costs to accommodate social distancing, technology to support virtual services and/or remote staff, staff health screenings.

• All reopening plans must be in alignment with state and federal public health guidelines for re-opening your facility safely

• Max grant size of $100,000 reserved for requests that serve multiple nonprofits (ex. group purchases of PPE). Expecting average award of ~$20,000 over a six-month period.
Eligibility

• Looking to support a broader range of nonprofits than the initial launch of the Response Fund.

• However, nonprofits that demonstrate alignment with the Foundation’s strategic focus to address disparities related to race/ethnicity, zip code and income and those led by, and predominately serving, communities and people of color may be prioritized.

• Our [grantmaking rubric](#) will guide decisions.

• Those awarded grants through the initial COVID-19 Response Fund are eligible to apply once the three-month period on the first grant has ended and a final report is submitted.
Award Amounts

Will be based on:

– Assessment on the grantmaking rubric
– Number of staff and clients
– Size and type of facilities
– Services provided (residential, direct service, virtual services, etc.)
Application Process

• Application is available on our [website](#).
• Questions are streamlined, and more specific to re-opening.
• You will be asked about your re-opening plan, budget and requested amount from the Foundation.
• Requests will be reviewed weekly for now.
• You will be notified typically within two weeks of application whether your request is approved, on hold or denied.
• Grant award letters and checks usually will be received within two weeks of award.
• Reporting requirements will remain streamlined with a focus on narrative reporting on use/impact of funding.
Strategic Priorities

• Continued commitment to our strategic plan which seeks to address largest disparities in our region based on race, place or income.
• Will infuse learning from the COVID-19 Response Fund.
• More details over the next few months.
• Any grant opportunities will be listed on our website as they arise.
Strategic Priorities

• Higher Opportunity Neighborhoods
  – Housing stability, social cohesion and perceptions of community safety, health-promoting environments
  – Cohorts: Hartford residents, returning citizens, homeless individuals or those at risk of homelessness

• Employment
  – Employment stability, stability of small neighborhood businesses, post-secondary degree and credential completion
  – Cohorts: Adults with barriers to employment, returning citizens, Black and Latinx youth, opportunity youth, Black and Latinx small business owners and entrepreneurs

• Basic Human Needs
  – Food security, shelter, health and human services, internet access
  – Cohorts: Low-income residents of the Greater Hartford region

• Civic Engagement and Resident Engagement
  – Census completion, voter participation, resident preparation and participation in neighborhood decision making
  – Cohorts: Undercounted and under-registered Greater Hartford residents, Hartford youth, opportunity youth, Spanish mono and bilingual Hartford residents

• Arts
  – Opportunities for artists of color, recovery and resilience for arts organizations (through COVID-19 Respond Fund)
  – Cohorts: Greater Hartford artists of color, small and mid-sized arts organization in Greater Hartford region

• We will continue to support our partnership and learning with the region’s Alliance Districts and Hartford Brighter Futures Family Centers
Questions

If you have questions about the COVID-19 Response Fund or other grant inquiries not addressed today, please e-mail applications@hfpg.org

Continue to monitor our website for any updates.