

UNITED WAY OF BERKS COUNTY
Berks COVID-19 Response Fund Grant Guidelines

Description: United Way of Berks County has established the Berks COVID-19 Response Fund to provide immediate funding for nonprofit organizations that have experienced increased demand for services, operational distress, and/or increased costs to continue current services as a result of COVID-19. The Berks COVID-19 Response Fund provides flexible resources to health and human service organizations across Berks County to provide essential aid and critically needed safety net services to those most impacted by the pandemic.

Eligibility: Any nonprofit organization or recognized 501(c)3 organization, providing health and human service programs to Berks County residents, is eligible to apply.

Amount of grant: A maximum of \$20,000 can be requested, with United Way reserving the option to award a lesser amount, based on demonstrated need and available resources. Due to limited resources and high demand for support during the COVID-19 pandemic, we ask agencies to please limit their request for this emergency funding to one per agency. However, additional requests from agencies will be reviewed on a case by case basis depending on the availability of resources and urgency of need.

Timeframe: Agencies may request funding at any time. Requests will be reviewed in the order received, with staff and volunteer review and Board action generally being completed within 14 business days from receipt. Agencies will be notified immediately of decisions.

Application format: Grant applications will be accepted, via e-CIMPACT and includes an application overview, budget overview, and non-agency partners are required to upload documents (501(c)3 letter, ACH form, and Patriot Act Cert at a minimum). If awarded the grant, a final report will be requested, which will include providing outcomes achieved and demographics of those served with grant funding. UWBC Community Level Outcomes and Program Level Outputs for reporting can be accessed via the Resource Center on e-CIMPACT. e-CIMPACT is a comprehensive grant and performance management software tool that helps simplify the grant application, evaluation, and reporting processes for success.

Review criteria: All requests are reviewed by a panel of United Way staff and community volunteers with extensive experience in health and human services and business. Reviewers evaluate requests based on the following:

- How well the request matches the purpose of the grant program
 - Requests for increased demand of services and/or modifications to continue services are prioritized upon initial launch of grant availability.
- The degree to which no other resources are immediately available
- How significant the impact on clients and the community will be if funding is not secured
- The amount of the request in relationship to the available dollars at the time of the request

Use of funds: Funds requested should support direct expenses of the program, although critical capital needs related to program operation may also be considered.

Additional information, questions or access to e-CIMPACT: Please contact Kristin Gehris, 610.685.4567 or kristing@uwberks.org.