FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

York County COVID-19 Relief Fund Grants $100,000 to organizations serving those in need

MAY 6, 2020 - KENNEBUNK, ME. United Way of York County’s newly established York County COVID-19 Relief Fund has granted more than $100,000 to local nonprofits that provide food, housing/emergency shelter, and youth engagement/teen mental health assistance to York County residents.

The first round of funding was distributed in mid-April, and the second round will be distributed by May 11th. A third round of funding for nonprofits will happen in late May as additional community needs are assessed.

“The needs of individuals and families and the increased demand on nonprofit services during this time are staggering,” noted Barb Wentworth, UWYC’s President & CEO. “We are grateful to everyone working each day to meet these challenges and we are thankful to be able to support their efforts.”

The grants are due to the incredible generosity of donors who have given directly to UWYC’s COVID-19 Relief Fund, as well as those donors who took part in the Maine United telethon on NewsCenter Maine in early April. Locally, the York County COVID-19 Relief Fund has raised over $135,000 to date.

Those wishing to donate can text COVIDMAINE to 41444 to contribute to the fund, or go to our website buildcommunity.org/york-county-covid-relief-fund. No fees will be taken from donations — 100 percent of the resources raised will go to nonprofits helping with food, housing and emergency shelter, and youth engagement/teen mental health in York County. Checks can be mailed to: United Way of York County, P.O. Box 727, Kennebunk, ME 04043 with “COVID Relief” in the memo area.
UWYC is also making connections in the community to help those in need due to the pandemic. This includes connecting Tom’s of Maine with several organizations that were able to include the local company’s hygiene products in community support efforts. UWYC has also facilitated weekly donations of Starbuck’s coffee to healthcare workers at Southern Maine Health Care. Funky Bow Brewery in Lyman recently held a food drive that United Way staff delivered to the YCSP Food Pantry in Alfred. UWYC also worked with Arundel Ford to help Youth Full Maine with a van to deliver food to its clients. UWYC continues to seek out partnerships that will benefit the community during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**About United Way of York County**

United Way of York County improves lives by mobilizing people and resources. Since its inception in 1986, and thanks to the support of thousands of generous individuals, businesses, and organizations throughout York County, United Way has invested more than $40 million in programs, projects, and initiatives that make a difference in the lives of those they serve. United Way of York County makes every dollar you give do more right here in your community. To learn more about United Way of York County, visit [www.buildcommunity.org](http://www.buildcommunity.org) or call 207-985-3359.

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