

COVID 19 “Rapid Response Fund” Initiative

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, United Midcoast Charities established the “Rapid Response Fund.” The Fund provides stopgap support in anticipation of the likelihood that local nonprofits would find themselves under-resourced to serve a growing demand for their services. 100% of all donations received go out as support for local nonprofits that are meeting the immediate needs of individuals seeking help in Knox and Waldo counties in Maine.

Rapid Response Application Information

United Midcoast Charities’ Rapid Response Fund applications are open by invitation and reviewed on a rolling basis as funds allow.

UMC provides a funding reply within 48 business hours of reviewing a completed application, and a check is issued immediately if the application is approved.

UMC requires all applicants to submit a current non-profit tax-exempt status 501(c)(3) or letter of agreement from a fiscal agent and the agent’s 501(c)(3) documentation and all applicants must provide programming aimed at promoting the welfare of residents of Knox and Waldo counties within UMC’s focus areas of food, housing, health and safety, and economic security. Rapid Response funding cannot be applied toward capital projects, endowments or private schools. Currently, Rapid Response Grants are capped at \$5,000 each.

All grant applications are thoroughly reviewed by our Rapid Response Fund committee based on the following criteria:

Mission Match: The work proposed is strongly aligned with UMC’s focus areas of food, housing, health and safety, and economic security. The proposed support is accessible and appropriate to vulnerable populations--i.e., women, children, older adults, medically fragile, communities of color, unemployed/underemployed, and low-income people.

Stand in the Gap: The applicant is facing an acute spike in community need and/or shortfall in ordinary income. Reserves and other sources of rapid funding are absent or slow.

Organizational Capacity: The organization(s) has the necessary capacity and infrastructure to meet the community need.

Partnership and Non-Duplication: The applicant evidences strong relationships with groups doing related work in the area. Strengths and assets are coordinated among partners for efficiency and success.

Oversight: The budget, financial structures, and governance are in good health. Capacity for oversight of funds is strong.

To view the online application, click [here](#).