



COVID-19 RESPONSE FUND FOR THE ST. CROIX VALLEY WAVE II FUNDING OPPORTUNITY (updated 8/12/20)

United. Together. For the Valley.

FAQs FOR GRANT APPLICANTS

WHAT IS THE COVID-19 RESPONSE FUND FOR THE ST. CROIX VALLEY?

The **COVID-19 Response Fund for the St. Croix Valley** is a collaboration of the St. Croix Valley Foundation (SCVF), United Way St. Croix Valley (UWSCV) and United Way Washington County East (UWWCE). The Fund will support community organizations responding to COVID-19.

IS THERE A GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS FOR THIS FUND?

YES. The **COVID-19 Response Fund for the St. Croix Valley** will prioritize community-based organizations serving Chisago and Washington Counties (Minnesota) and Burnett, Pierce, Polk and St. Croix Counties (Wisconsin).

WHAT WILL GRANTS FROM THIS FUND SUPPORT?

We anticipate multiple phases of funding to address immediate and longer-term needs related to this crisis.

Past: **Wave I** (March – May), priority was given to local organizations working to meet the basic needs of those most significantly impacted by this crisis (including food, housing, mental health and financial assistance). In Wave I, the fund granted \$525,000 to 98 nonprofit organizations.

Current: **Wave II** (deadline: 5 pm, Friday September 18, 2020), focused on local organizations assisting with **housing, utilities, and transportation** due to increased need related to COVID-19.

- The St. Croix Valley region has incredible nonprofits doing important work responding to the needs in their communities. This funding will be flexible so that organizations may creatively respond to the evolving needs of this uncertain time.

Future: Communicated as fundraising continues, making it possible to adapt quickly to evolving needs.

IF OUR ORGANIZATION RECEIVED FUNDING IN WAVE I, ARE WE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR WAVE II?

YES. If your organization is assisting with **WAVE II's** three priority areas (**housing, utilities, transportation**), you are eligible to apply. Please note, organizations who received funding in Wave I will be asked to provide a brief impact report related to that funding during the Wave II application process.

WHAT TYPES OF ORGANIZATIONS ARE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE A GRANT FROM THE FUND?

Due to the charitable structure of **The COVID-19 Response Fund for the St. Croix Valley**, grants are made to 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, groups fiscally sponsored by a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, or other charitable organizations able to receive a tax-deductible contribution, such as schools and other public entities. We are not able to directly fund businesses, or nonprofits with 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) status.

HOW CAN MY ORGANIZATION APPLY TO RECEIVE FUNDING?

Organizations that would like to ensure they are considered can fill out an application at <https://www.scvfoundation.org/covid-19>.

CAN INDIVIDUALS AFFECTED BY COVID-19 APPLY FOR FUNDING?

NO. We understand many individuals and families have been significantly impacted by COVID-19. **The COVID-19 Response Fund for the St. Croix Valley** is not able to provide direct grants to individuals. Instead, we will work to move resources as quickly as possible to community-based organizations that are directly supporting those most affected. For more information about resources in your local community, contact the United Way 211.

WHO WILL MAKE DECISIONS ABOUT WHAT IS FUNDED?

Grants from **The COVID-19 Response Fund for the St. Croix Valley** will be recommended by an advisory committee appointed by the SCVF, UWSCV and UWWCE. These appointees could include staff, board members, affiliated community foundation board members and/or other community partners of the SCVF, UWSCV and UWWCE.

WHEN WILL YOU SHARE INFORMATION ABOUT GRANTS FROM THE FUND?

A listing of grantees will be published on the websites of [St. Croix Valley Foundation](#), [United Way St. Croix Valley](#) and [United Way Washington County East](#).

FAQs FOR DONORS

HOW CAN I GIVE TO THE COVID-19 RESPONSE FUND FOR THE ST. CROIX VALLEY?

- *If you want to help your community, but don't know how or where to give most effectively, this is the Fund for you.*
- Online at www.scvfoundation.org/COVID-19
- Send check to "St. Croix Valley Foundation/COVID-19", mailed to SCVF, 516 2nd St Ste 214, Hudson, WI 54016.
- Through your donor advised fund, recommending a grant to The St. Croix Valley Foundation with "COVID-19 Response Fund" as the grant purpose.

To inquire about transferring other assets, please contact [Heather Logelin](#), (715)386-9490.

CAN I DESIGNATE MY GIFT FOR A SPECIFIC COMMUNITY?

YES. The SCVF has ten affiliated community foundations (Amery, Chisago Lakes, Hudson, Lower St. Croix Valley, New Richmond, Northwest Alliance, Prescott, River Falls, Somerset and Stillwater) throughout the six-county region. If you designate your gift to one of those areas, we will ensure that your dollars are granted to support that community. Donors seeking to support organizations outside of that geographic area are encouraged to make direct gifts or reach out to that area's community foundation or United Way for assistance with gifts to support that region.

CAN I DESIGNATE MY GIFT FOR A SPECIFIC ORGANIZATION OR PURPOSE?

NO. To ensure that we can coordinate and share resources as quickly as possible, donors may not restrict their grants to a specific organization or purpose. If you would like to support a specific organization, we encourage you to give to them directly.

HOW MUCH OF MY DONATION WILL GO TO HELP THOSE AFFECTED BY COVID-19?

100%. The SCVF is waiving administrative fees for **The COVID-19 Response Fund for the St. Croix Valley**. This means that, with the exception of fees charged by credit card companies, 100% of your gift will be used to help respond to COVID-19 in our region.

SHOULD I GIVE TO THIS FUND INSTEAD OF MAKING OTHER DONATIONS?

NO. **The COVID-19 Response Fund for the St. Croix Valley** was established to quickly get charitable resources where they are needed most, with an initial focus on the basic needs of those most significantly impacted by this crisis. However, we know this is a difficult time for all of our local nonprofits. Please continue to give directly to the organizations you regularly support. Now is the time to double down for our community as we begin to respond to the immediate and long-term ramifications of COVID-19.

--- Contact information for the partnering organizations is below. ---

The Covid-19 Response Fund for the St. Croix Valley.

UNITED. TOGETHER. FOR THE VALLEY.



The St. Croix Valley Foundation is a philanthropic organization with the mission of enhancing the quality of life in the St. Croix Valley. Accredited by the Charities Review Council and the Council on Foundations' National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations, the SCVF serves two counties in MN (Washington, Chisago) and 4 counties in WI (Burnett, Polk, St. Croix, Pierce). Ten affiliated community foundations are hosted under the structure and guidance of SCVF. For more information contact [Heather Logelin](#), President, 715-386-9490

The United Way St. Croix Valley helps ensure that all people in the St. Croix Valley can lead a healthy life, receive quality education, and experience financial stability. We strengthen Wisconsin communities in St. Croix, Polk and Pierce Counties. We also serve communities in Burnett and Washburn Counties in Northern Wisconsin. For more information contact [Ann Searles](#), Executive Director, 715-377-0203.

CALL 211 if you need help locating services.

The United Way of Washington County-East works to unite our community and local resources to give each person the opportunity to build a better life. Areas served include river communities from Afton to Marine on St. Croix, also Woodbury, Lake Elmo, Stillwater, Hugo and Withrow. For more information contact [Jessica Ryan](#), Executive Director, 651-439-3838.

CALL 211 if you need help locating services.

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