FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COVID-19 RESPONSE FUND GRANTS NOW TOTAL $525,000

[Hudson, May 5, 2020] – Nonprofit organizations throughout the St. Croix Valley have stepped up to assist residents needing food, shelter, financial assistance and mental health services. The COVID-19 Response Fund for the St. Croix Valley was established to support those efforts and has distributed $525,000 to 98 nonprofit organizations responding to basic needs exacerbated by the COVID-19 crisis.

Grant recipients (list included) are serving needs throughout Chisago and Washington counties (Minnesota) and Burnett, Pierce, Polk and St. Croix counties (Wisconsin).

The COVID-19 Response Fund for the St. Croix Valley was established on March 20 as a partnership between United Way St. Croix Valley, United Way Washington County-East and the St. Croix Valley Foundation (SCVF). Initial funding was provided by the Hugh J. Andersen Foundation, the Fred C. & Katherine B. Andersen Foundation and the SCVF. Subsequent contributions from other foundations, businesses and individuals through the end of April brought the fund’s total to nearly $530,000.

The Advisory Committee has now paused grantmaking, following the quick response to the region’s most immediate needs, in order to assess the longer-term needs related to the pandemic.

Gifts received after April 30 will be used as seed funding for a second wave of basic needs grantmaking. The focus and timeline for these grants will be announced this summer.

FURTHER INFORMATION

100% DISTRIBUTION
In a consolidated effort to help those most affected by COVID-19, the St. Croix Valley Foundation has waived all administrative fees for the Covid-19 Response Fund for the St. Croix Valley. This means (with the exception of fees charged by banks/credit card companies) that 100% of donors’ gifts have been used to help those most affected by COVID-19 in the St. Croix Valley.

LISTING OF GRANTEES
A full list of grantees (broken out by counties served and needs met) can be found at https://www.scvfoundation.org/covid-19.
98 nonprofit organizations received a total of $525,000.
QUALIFIED GRANTEES
The COVID-19 Response Fund has made grants to 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, groups fiscally sponsored by a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, or other charitable organizations able to receive tax-deductible contributions, such as schools and other public entities.

THE GRANTMAKING PROCESS
Grants from the Response Fund have been recommended by an advisory committee appointed by the SCVF, UWSCV and UWWCE.

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 at hlogelin@scvfoundation.org or 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. The United Way St. Croix Valley coordinates services in Polk, Pierce, St. Croix and Burnett Counties and provides the 211 Get Connected. Get Help. service (responding to immediate needs). For more information contact Ann Searles, Executive Director at ann.searles@unitedwaystcroix.org or 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 at jessica.ryan@uwwce.org or 651-439-3838. CALL 211 if you need help locating services.

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