COVID-19 RESPONSE FUND FOR THE ST. CROIX VALLEY

United. Together. For The Valley.

Frequently Asked Questions

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 in Chisago and Washington counties (Minnesota) and Burnett, Pierce, Polk and St. Croix counties (Wisconsin).

HOW CAN I GIVE TO THE COVID-19 RESPONSE FUND FOR THE ST. CROIX VALLEY?
- Give online at www.scvfoundation.org/COVID-19
- Send your check, payable to St. Croix Valley Foundation/COVID-19 and mailed to SCVF, 516 2nd St Ste 214, Hudson, WI 54016.
- Give 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.

IS THERE A GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS FOR THIS FUND?
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). 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 COMMUNITY?
In some cases, 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.

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

WHAT WILL GRANTS FROM THIS FUND SUPPORT?
We anticipate multiple phases of funding to address both the immediate and longer-term needs related to this crisis. During Phase One, priority will be given to local organizations working to meet the basic needs of those most significantly impacted by this crisis. This phase includes proactively identifying potential grant recipients and using input, guidance and research from organizations and others in the community to make grant decisions. Future grant phases will be communicated as fundraising continues throughout the crisis, making it possible to adapt quickly to evolving needs.

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 limited 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?
In order to move resources quickly and not further burden nonprofit organizations, Phase One will not employ a formal application process. Organizations that would like to ensure they are considered can fill out a brief form at https://www.scvfoundation.org/covid-19

CAN INDIVIDUALS AFFECTED BY COVID-19 APPLY FOR FUNDING?
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, during the first phase of our grantmaking, we will work to move resources as quickly as possible to community-based organizations that are directly supporting those who are 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.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO ANY FUNDS NOT USED FOR THE COVID-19 RESPONSE EFFORT?
In the unlikely case that all funds contributed are not able to be distributed to COVID-19 response efforts, any remaining balance will be granted evenly to the UWSCV and UWWCE to support future basic needs grantmaking.

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