

UNITED WAY OF GREATER CLEVELAND'S COVID-19 RESPONSE

The COVID-19 pandemic created a crisis upon a crisis for our community. Families who were one missed paycheck away from poverty suddenly found themselves unemployed and unable to buy basic resources.

But our neighbors did not face this crisis alone. Our community came together to extend a hand to those who needed help. United Way and a coalition of community partners from across every sector led and strengthened efforts to weather this storm.

MARCH 2020

2-1-1 CONNECTS THE COMMUNITY WITH RESOURCES

United Way's pandemic response officially began through our 2-1-1 HelpLink, a 24/7 free and confidential crisis line for people in need. In March, call volume doubled to 6,000 calls per week.

2-1-1 HelpLink begins a partnership with Cuyahoga and Cleveland Department of Public Health to establish a Coronavirus Helpline to address health-related questions.

GREATER CLEVELAND COVID-19 RAPID RESPONSE FUND

United Way of Greater Cleveland serves as a key partner in the Cleveland Foundation's Rapid Response Fund, which in just a few short weeks went from a concept to a community-wide emergency funding effort to keep the nonprofits serving on the frontline of the COVID-19 pandemic afloat.

Since the Fund's creation partners have granted more than \$8.6 million to nearly 160 nonprofit groups and organizations.

MAY 2020

FACE MASKS FOR FRONTLINE WORKERS

The power of partnership was clear when six organizations, including United Way of Greater Cleveland, convened to source, provide and distribute more than 100,000 K-95 facemasks to 100 community nonprofits in Greater Cleveland.

SEPTEMBER 2020

ACADEMIC LEARNING PODS

United Way of Greater Cleveland and the Cleveland Foundation partner with the Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD) to introduce Academic Learning Pods, providing students in kindergarten through eighth grade with a safe space and small group, in-person tutoring to supplement their virtual learning. Through this initiative, more than 800 CMSD students who are academically vulnerable, homeless, without internet or have guardians who are essential workers gain educational support and on-site enrichment, including reliable internet and lunch, when they are not in school classrooms.

APRIL 2020

ALL FOR THE LAND: COVID-19 RELIEF LIVE

19 News, The Cleveland Cavaliers, WTAM 1100 and 100.7 WMMS joined forces to produce a Telethon fundraiser to benefit United Way of Greater Cleveland and The Greater Cleveland Food Bank, our longtime partner. This star-studded program included local heroes who raised money to help their Greater Cleveland neighbors.

In just one night, the community raised more than \$160,000 to help people in need!

SANITATION STATIONS FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE HOMELESS

Good hand hygiene is more important than ever to help people protect themselves from coronavirus. Greater Cleveland's population of people who are homeless needed restroom facilities equipped for proper handwashing. Led by the City of Cleveland and Cuyahoga County, United Way and nonprofit partners provided six "sanitation stations" in easily accessed areas for people who are homeless to use.

JULY 2020

PREPARING FOR AN EVICTION CRISIS

United Way of Greater Cleveland continues work with the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland to launch Right to Counsel-Cleveland as many Cleveland renters face uncertainty now that eviction filings have resumed. Right to Counsel-Cleveland begins services to the public on July 1, providing Cleveland tenants with children access to an attorney when facing an eviction.

CURRENTLY

UNITED WAY WILL CONTINUE OUR RESPONSE

Our community will need time and resources to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. While helping families and people get the essential resources they need to survive, like food and shelter, remains vital, United Way is also committed to meeting their long-term needs and addressing the root causes of poverty, including systemic racism and housing instability, to create a better future for every Greater Clevelander.



GREATER CLEVELAND