



Emergency Relief Funds: COVID-19 Responsive Grant Program

OVERVIEW

In March 2020 as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Foundation for MetroWest established two emergency relief funds to support the rapid delivery of financial resources to MetroWest-based nonprofits serving our community. The MetroWest Emergency Relief Fund is designed to support MetroWest-based nonprofit organizations working to serve our communities during broad-based emergencies, including natural disasters, financial crises, and public health emergencies. The Feed Framingham COVID-19 Fund was set up in partnership with the City of Framingham to support nonprofits who are helping to ensure access to food and basic hygiene necessities for vulnerable residents of Framingham.

As the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic continues to present significant challenges to our region and its residents, the Foundation is pleased to offer a re-focused COVID-19 Responsive Grant Program throughout the first half of 2021. This will continue to be a rolling, rapid response grant program providing operating grants to 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations serving MetroWest.

FUNDING PRIORITIES

At this time, the Foundation will continue to prioritize our most vulnerable residents, families, and youth who have been disproportionately affected by COVID-19 and are still in crisis or working towards recovering from the pandemic and its impact. A priority will be placed on organizations that serve seniors, communities of color, underserved youth, immigrants, individuals with disabilities, and other vulnerable populations.

While we understand the pandemic has been challenging for our region's nonprofits, this grant program is not intended to respond to overall budget shortfalls, general operating needs, or year-long programs. This is also not offered as a replacement for our annual competitive grant programs.

The types of initiatives we will consider include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Food and hygiene security
- Housing security (rental/utility assistance, shelter programs)
- Emergency mental health services (psychiatric evaluations, one-on-one or group emergency clinical support, etc.)
- Community safety (PPE/sanitizer/cleaning needs, testing or vaccination transportation or support efforts, domestic violence programs, etc.)

Grants of up to \$10,000 will be provided as funds are available. We will consider providing larger grants on a case-by-case basis. Contact us at grants@foundationformetrowest.org if you seek to submit a request for more than \$10,000.

Please note: *If you are seeking support from the Feed Framingham COVID-19 Fund, please apply using this grant program. We will utilize the fund to support eligible Framingham-focused requests as funds are available.*

ELIGIBILITY & SELECTION PROCESS

Requests must come from designated 501(c)3 community-based nonprofit organizations. We cannot provide grants to:

- town agencies
- schools (public, private, chapter 766, etc.)
- individuals

Proposals will be Requests will be reviewed every two weeks by the Foundation's Distribution Committee and staff. A representative from the Foundation may follow up with specific questions or ask for a brief call to discuss your request. Please expect a response and grant decision within 2-4 weeks.

HOW TO REQUEST SUPPORT

1. If your organization is new to Foundation for MetroWest, please create an account.
 - a. www.bit.ly/ffmw_foundant
 - b. See www.bit.ly/ApplicantTutorial for a short video tutorial.
2. If your organization has applied to Foundation for MetroWest in the past, please log into your existing account.
 - a. www.bit.ly/ffmw_foundant
3. Once you are logged into your account, click on the Apply icon from the top menu bar.
4. Select **MetroWest COVID Relief Grant Program**.

For questions regarding eligibility or the process, please email grants@foundationformetrowest.org