

A REPORT ON THE COMMUNITY
NEEDS GRANTS PROGRAM OF THE

Delaware COVID-19 Strategic Response Fund

2020 - 2021

OUR FRIENDS,

Over the past year, as our community grappled with a global health crisis, renewed focus on social justice and political unrest, we have been moved to see you and other Delawareans step up.

Through the **Delaware COVID-19 Strategic Response Fund**, a partnership of the Delaware Community Foundation and Philanthropy Delaware, Delawareans donated more than \$5 million to address community needs related to the pandemic. We committed to you and all donors that we would disburse that money strategically throughout the duration of the pandemic, to address needs as they evolved.

Of that money, to date, over \$3.2 million has been awarded through the **Community Needs Grants Program** to more than 150 nonprofit organizations statewide. We are honored to share the impact of those grants in this report.

The initial Community Needs Grants, issued in April 2020 as the weight of the pandemic first descended, focused on basic needs: food, housing, and health care. All were doing what was necessary to survive in our fast-changing world.

As the pandemic evolved and our communities' needs changed, so did the focus of the grants program. While still addressing basic needs, we increasingly focused on education, childcare, the conversion of services to virtual platforms, and the disparities in access to essential technology.

As we recognized these evolving needs and learned from the applicants to the Community Needs Grants Program, we launched the Vision Grants Program to address longer-term solutions and structural changes in how our state provides community services. The Vision Grants Program has distributed more than \$500,000 to date and helped nonprofits secure an additional \$2.6 million. Another round of Vision Grants is yet to come, and we will be providing a full update on those initiatives later this year.

Through the summer and into the fall, as the impact of the pandemic evolved and social justice issues flared around the country, the Community Needs Grants Program evolved with it. Increasingly, grants addressed the disproportionate impact of the pandemic on communities of color, striving to advance equity throughout our state.

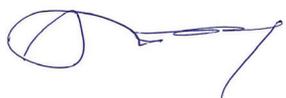
Thanks to your generosity, we took steps to preserve Delaware's quality of life, helping organizations such as libraries, theaters, museums and cultural sites survive, provide interim virtual programming, and prepare to reopen safely when we can all be together again.

As our communities grapple with the impact of the pandemic, the COVID-19 Strategic Response Fund will continue to award grants for as long as resources are available.

Over the past 12 months, the Community Needs Grants Program has provided food, housing and health care. It has provided technology to enable children to continue to learn, allowed people with addictions to maintain their treatment, and afforded victims of domestic abuse access to legal services. It has provided safe cultural experiences for families, comfort and care for individuals with dementia, and so much more.

In the next few pages, we offer a deeper glimpse of the multifaceted ways you have helped Delawareans survive—and sometimes even thrive—through the many challenges of the past year, and how our thoughtful communities are using this moment to look to the future.

Thank you. You did this, and we are so grateful to have served as the vehicle for your compassion for your neighbors and your love for Delaware.



STUART COMSTOCK-GAY
President & CEO
Delaware Community Foundation



TYNETTA BROWN
President & CEO
Philanthropy Delaware

Responding to the Moment

The COVID-19 pandemic radically altered our way of life, resulting in record unemployment, families living in isolation, closed schools, shuttered businesses and inaccessible support systems. Community Needs Grants helped numerous organizations quickly ensure their communities would not go without. From food to housing, health services to safety equipment, our community's generosity made it possible for us to help Delaware nonprofits immediately address basic needs.

Delaware HIV Services, Inc. – Statewide

GRANT: \$20,000

PURPOSE: To provide people living with HIV safe access to care.

Providing care for patients took on new meaning when organizations like Delaware HIV Services, Inc. had to adjust to the COVID-19 environment. Not wanting patients to stress about accessing resources or having to risk exposure when traveling to receive care, the organization created new methods of delivery with support from a Community Needs Grant. From providing clients with PPE and disinfecting supplies, to mailing at-home testing kits and adding virtual appointments, the organization moved quickly to seamlessly enhance services for clients.



"Oh my gosh, I didn't even know delivery was available. You don't know how much stress it relieves just not to have to ride the bus downtown to your office. This is so nice!" - Delaware HIV Services client

First State Community Action Agency – Kent County

GRANT: \$40,000

PURPOSE: To provide emergency food and housing assistance for vulnerable populations, including youth, seniors and immigrant communities.

Demand for emergency financial assistance increased dramatically as COVID-19 and its effects rippled throughout Delaware. At First State Community Action Agency, staff answered calls and conducted door-to-door outreach and assessments, so individuals would not need to travel to find answers or care. The organization found many callers were simply seeking credible information about the virus, testing sites and the state's reopening plans. As needs continued to grow, support from the Community Needs Grants Program helped the agency step up, infusing funds into communities in need and helping residents through case management, housing counseling and emergency services.



Jewish Family Services of Delaware – Statewide

GRANT: \$25,000

PURPOSE: To provide personalized care for individuals with dementia and their caregivers.

The pandemic posed unique risks to people with dementia and created additional stress for their caregivers. With support from the Community Needs Grants Program, COMPASS—a program offered through Jewish Family Services of Delaware—was able to provide needed resources for patients and caregivers by expanding telehealth visits and offering personalized care plans and training. One caregiver shared with COMPASS that she was experiencing anxiety because her husband was unable to adequately comprehend the pandemic and adhere to necessary precautions. Assistance from COMPASS, including education and recommendations, relieved a significant burden.

Health Care and Emergency Aid

As the pandemic continued, organizations realized they not only had to respond, but also adapt to provide virtual programming, physical health and safety updates, and flexible support as communities, schools and businesses looked to operate in this new reality.

The Sewell C. Biggs Trust – Kent County

GRANT: \$7,250

PURPOSE: To provide schoolchildren with virtual and hybrid educational opportunities.

Prior to the pandemic, the Biggs Museum of American Art regularly welcomed about a thousand students annually. The Biggs is a vital cultural outlet focused on the decorative and fine arts. A Community Needs Grant enabled the Biggs to provide remote and hybrid learning activities so students could virtually access the field trip experience. The Biggs launched the programs to assist students and teachers across the state, with educators sharing positive feedback after the virtual field trips.



"Kids really like it—it came out in discussion in the room after we were on Zoom. Thank You!!!!!" -Participating Teacher



Harrington Senior Center – Kent County

GRANT: \$10,000

PURPOSE: To provide safe opportunities for seniors to enjoy companionship by making facility updates.

Human interaction and connection play a role in overall well-being, and it's the mission of the Harrington Senior Center to provide active adults age 50+ with a place for friends and fellowship. A Community Needs Grant allowed the center to adapt its facilities for the age of social distancing with the installation of sneeze guards and 72-inch round tables, as well as a computer to facilitate contact tracing. Without these updates, the center could not have accommodated members for its Thanksgiving Feast Dinner and provided meaningful connections throughout the year in a safe environment.

Ronald McDonald House of Delaware – New Castle County

GRANT: \$10,000

PURPOSE: To welcome additional families in need and add additional positions.

The Ronald McDonald House of Delaware is a welcoming respite for families with children in need of significant medical care. It's where children like five-year-old Astrid (pictured with her dad, sister and mom) and her family from North Carolina have been living for over a year, so Astrid could receive a liver transplant at Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children and then begin long-term care. The house typically relies on more than 400 volunteers, but precautions to protect the safety and well-being of staff and guests meant volunteers could not provide the usual support. A Community Needs Grant enabled the house to hire additional staff while the volunteer program was suspended, reducing stress on staff and ensuring current and incoming families experienced a warm stay.



Building Ways Forward

With social justice issues, unemployment and politics shaping local and national discourse alongside the pandemic, organizations seized the opportunity to step in and respond through the arts, dialogue and assistance.



Code Purple Kent County – Kent County

GRANT: \$37,000

PURPOSE: To provide housing, meals and information for individuals in need.

What started as a campaign for Code Purple to find shelter for clients expanded into an effort to feed hundreds. Initially, Code Purple received funding to help homeless clients find housing with local hotels, but this was a temporary solution. A second Community Needs Grant allowed Code Purple to expand their operations and purchase a food truck. Now they travel to communities in need and offer support, food and supplies. By mobilizing the food truck, Code Purple was able to feed 100 to 200 people a day. Not only were they able to serve cooked food to people who were living in hotels, tent cities and cars, but they also could share information on overcoming COVID-19-related obstacles.

"The Community Needs Grant helped us serve over 1,000,000 meals to homeless, displaced and hotel stayers. We also were able to construct an extra bathroom, shower and laundry room, and launch a food truck program to help address food insecurity in areas where we previously could not reach."

-Emmanuel Ennio, President CPKC

The Delaware Contemporary – New Castle County

GRANT: \$10,000

PURPOSE: To advance programming and outreach, and serve evolving community needs.

With the pandemic changing normal operations at The Delaware Contemporary—including a period when it had to temporarily close its doors—the art space looked for different ways to promote art and support artists. With support from a Community Needs Grant, it launched guided virtual outreach programs, provided therapeutic activities for at-risk teens, and presented four unscheduled exhibitions, from which benefited more than 50 artists. Among the exhibitions was "The Response Gallery," which grew out of a desire to provide a platform for peaceful expression and community engagement. This project was theme-free, so participating artists could freely express themselves during these emotionally charged times.

Lewes Public Library – Sussex County

GRANT: \$10,000

PURPOSE: To seamlessly transition patrons to a new in-person and virtual service model.

From virtual author visits and a Spanish conversation group, to grab-and-go craft kits for kids and curbside pick-up of books, the Lewes Public Library continues to bring people together safely, through its myriad of resources. Knowing the community would need their services during these challenging times, the library transitioned to accommodate patrons from a distance, opening its virtual doors to far beyond Delaware. Funds from the Community Needs Grants Program helped make this pivot possible, and the library also enhanced ongoing virtual programming for children and teens, as well as patrons who are job-hunting or training due to furloughs or business closures. The library expects that some virtual programs and accommodations will remain even once the library building is fully open to the public again.



Leading Recovery and Building Opportunity

Almost a year into the pandemic, Delaware—like so many places—is permanently altered. Looking to the future, organizations are playing a role in reshaping discourse, improving overall physical and mental wellness, and getting Delawareans back on their feet.

Developing Artist Collaboration – Sussex County

GRANT: \$3,400

PURPOSE: To fund electronics needed for the Creative Career Support Program.

The pandemic has forced many artists to adapt, as projects have been cancelled or put on hold. The Creative Career Support Program at the Developing Artist Collaboration (DAC) represents one way organizations are stepping in to offer support, providing artists with stipends for work, a community of support, and tools and training to advance their skills. With a Community Needs Grant, DAC purchased computers and other technology for artists to rent, empowering them to complete the training program, create websites and social media to market their work, build new skills to help them re-enter the workforce, and more.



“Being able to rent a MacBook Pro from the DAC to build my website has been a game changer for my career.” -Lisa Chambers, Creative Career Support Program graduate



Leading Youth Through Empowerment (LYTE) – Statewide

GRANT: \$15,000

PURPOSE: To modify teaching for online delivery and create alternative ways for students to contact mentors.

One week after schools closed due to COVID-19, Leading Youth Through Empowerment (LYTE) transitioned all its programming online. Realizing that students needed mentorship and support now more than ever, it linked a texting system to its database, establishing direct communications with 181 scholars and launching thousands of text messages. An investment from the Community Needs Grants Program assisted LYTE with the transition, as well as the hiring of four staff members and creation of a new website. Because of this success, LYTE was able to recruit new members and serve students from all three counties. Even when schools fully reopen, LYTE plans to maintain its online classroom, creating additional opportunities for students to connect and receive mentorship through varied platforms.

Sojourners' Place, Inc. – New Castle County

GRANT: \$6,000

PURPOSE: To expand the computer lab, so people experiencing homelessness can connect with employment opportunities on their road to self-sufficiency.

Sojourners' Place, a Wilmington-based shelter, is focused on not only providing housing, but also helping homeless residents obtain independence and self-sufficiency. With support from a Community Needs Grant, Sojourners' Place safely expanded its computer lab so residents have a place to search for jobs and conduct Zoom interviews. With a safe environment, the residents of Sojourners' Place can stabilize their health, build self-esteem, and gain a clearer vision of their futures. Among the success stories of the past year were several residents who saw their nursing licenses reinstated and found employment as healthcare professionals, as well as residents who secured employment at Amazon and the Delaware Recycling Center.



COVID-19 Strategic Response Fund Grantees

Between March 2020 and March 2021, the Delaware COVID-19 Strategic Response Fund awarded over \$3.2 million to more than 150 nonprofit organizations providing services to communities throughout the state.



Historic Lewes Farmers Market

Absolutely Flawless Women, Inc.	\$5,000
Arden Club	\$4,000
Arise Delaware	\$4,300
Beau Biden Foundation for the Protection of Children	\$22,000
Bellevue Community Center	\$10,000
Better Tomorrows	\$13,000
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Delaware	\$10,000
Blood Bank of Delmarva, Inc.	\$20,000
Boys & Girls Clubs of Delaware	\$30,000
Brandywine Counseling & Community Services, Inc.	\$25,000
Brandywine Valley SPCA	\$10,000
CAMP Rehoboth	\$10,000
Catholic Charities, Diocese of Wilmington	\$47,500
Central Baptist Community Development Corporation	\$9,000
Central Delaware Habitat for Humanity	\$35,000

CHEER, Inc.	\$38,000
CHILD, Inc.	\$36,000
Children & Families First	\$55,000
Chinese American Community Center	\$8,000
Choir School of Delaware	\$37,500
Christina Cultural Arts Center	\$33,000
Cityfest, Inc.	\$13,250
Clear Space Theatre Company	\$10,000
Coastal Concerts, Inc.	\$3,150
Code Purple Kent County	\$37,000
Colonial Chapter of The Paralyzed Veterans of America, Inc.	\$5,000
Communities In Schools Delaware	\$12,500
Community Education Building	\$7,800
Community Legal Aid Society, Inc.	\$10,000
Connecting Generations	\$10,000
ContactLifeline, Inc.	\$7,000



Habitat for Humanity of NCC



Delaware Art Museum	\$10,775
Delaware Breast Cancer Coalition	\$15,000
Delaware Center for Horticulture	\$10,000
Delaware Center for Justice	\$25,000
Delaware Children’s Museum, Inc.	\$55,000
Delaware College Scholars	\$18,000
Delaware Contemporary	\$10,000
Delaware First Media/Delaware Public Media	\$28,500
Delaware Historical Society	\$2,000
Delaware HIV Services, Inc.	\$20,000
Delaware Institute for the Arts in Education	\$10,000
Delaware Museum of Natural History	\$10,000
Delaware Shakespeare	\$7,500
Delaware Symphony Orchestra	\$12,500
Delaware Theatre Company	\$11,750
Delaware Volunteer Legal Services, Inc.	\$15,443
Delaware Zoological Society	\$24,600
Delmarva Adult & Teen Challenge Home of Hope	\$25,000
Delmarva Community Services, Inc.	\$5,700
Developing Artist Collaboration	\$3,400
Down Syndrome Association of Delaware	\$3,700
Downtown Visions	\$10,000

Easterseals Delaware & Maryland’s Eastern Shore, Inc.	\$59,000
EDGE for Tomorrow	\$9,000
Elizabeth W. Murphey School, Inc.	\$15,600
ESL Program at the Lutheran Church of Our Savior	\$1,500
Faithful Friends Animal Society	\$28,000
Family Counseling Center of St. Paul’s	\$43,000
Family Promise of Northern New Castle County, Inc.	\$25,000
Fellowship Health Resources, Inc.	\$6,500
First State Community Action Agency	\$40,000
Frederica Senior Center	\$22,500
Friendship House, Inc.	\$85,000
Georgetown Public Library	\$16,000
Grand Opera House	\$15,000
Green Beret Project	\$10,000
Habitat for Humanity of New Castle County	\$75,000
Harrington Senior Center	\$17,300
Harry K Foundation	\$28,000
Historic Lewes Farmers Market	\$7,500
Holy Rosary Catholic Church	\$20,000
Home of the Brave Foundation	\$10,000
House of Pride, Inc.	\$9,000
Ingleside Homes, Inc.	\$104,000



Christina Cultural Arts Center



Little Sisters of the Poor

Jewish Family Services of Delaware	\$55,000
Joshua M. Freeman Foundation	\$10,000
Kalmar Nyckel Foundation	\$5,400
Kent-Sussex Industries, Inc.	\$50,000
La Esperanza, Inc.	\$18,000
La Red Health Center	\$42,000
Latin American Community Center	\$100,000
Laurel Community Foundation, Inc.	\$4,000
Laurel Public Library	\$3,900
Leading Youth Through Empowerment	\$15,000
Lewes Public Library	\$10,000
Life Center Complex, Inc.	\$15,000
Limen House, Inc.	\$25,000
Literacy Delaware	\$15,567
Little Sisters of the Poor	\$40,000
Love INC of Mid-Delmarva	\$50,000
Mary Campbell Center	\$10,000
Mental Health Association in Delaware	\$6,221
Merakey Allos	\$6,500
Milford Housing Development Corporation	\$10,500
Milton Community Food Pantry	\$1,000
Ministry of Caring, Inc.	\$11,000
Misphillion Art League, Inc.	\$6,000

Modern Maturity Center, Inc.	\$100,000
Music School of Delaware	\$10,000
Nanticoke Senior Center	\$32,000
NCALL	\$54,000
Neighborhood House, Inc.	\$16,000
Network Delaware	\$25,000
Newark Symphony Orchestra	\$7,500
One Village Alliance, Inc.	\$15,000
OperaDelaware	\$8,500
Partners for Justice	\$15,000
Paws for People	\$4,000
Planned Parenthood of Delaware	\$40,000
Precision Institute	\$2,500
Progressive Life Center, Inc.	\$15,000
Project New Start, Inc.	\$25,000
Public Allies Delaware	\$20,000
Read Aloud Delaware	\$20,000
Reading Assist Institute	\$15,000
Rehoboth Art League	\$15,000
Rehoboth Community Resource Center	\$10,000
Rodney Street Tennis & Tutoring	\$6,000
Ronald McDonald House of Delaware	\$10,000
Rosa Health Center, Inc.	\$3,000
Saint Michael's School and Nursery, Inc.	\$28,000



Rodney Street Tennis & Tutoring

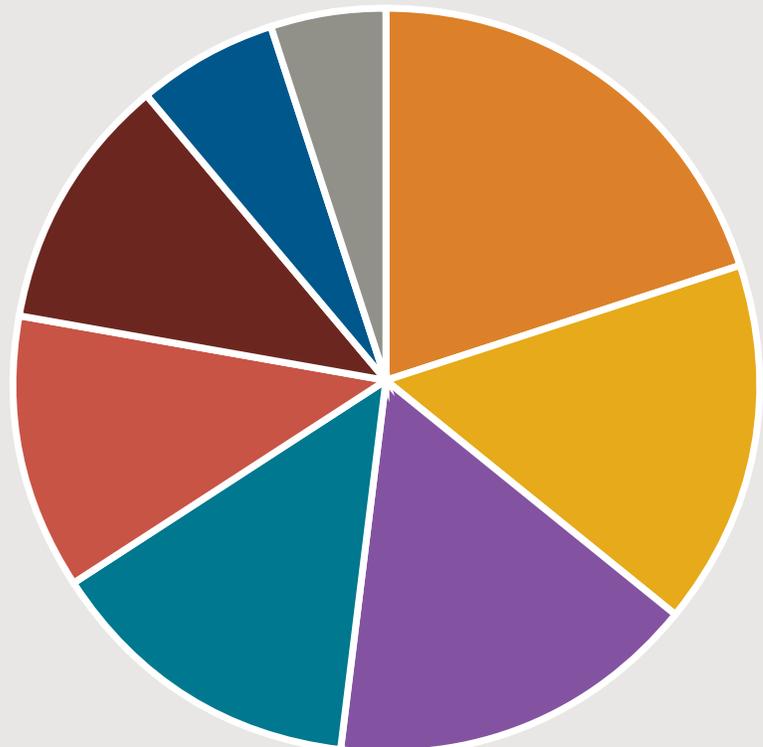
Saint Patrick's Center	\$20,000
Serenity Place, Inc.	\$3,000
Serviam Girls Academy	\$20,000
Sewell C. Biggs Trust	\$7,250
Siegel JCC	\$16,360
Sojourners' Place, Inc.	\$6,000
Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project	\$25,000
Square One DE, Inc.	\$17,000
Stop the Violence Prayer Chain Foundation	\$2,500
Survivors of Abuse in Recovery	\$48,325
Sussex County Habitat for Humanity	\$67,440
TeenSHARP	\$40,000
Vision To Learn	\$20,000
Warriors Helping Warriors	\$10,000
A WAVE of Healthy Meals Foundation	\$2,000

West End Neighborhood House, Inc.	\$70,086
Westside Family Healthcare	\$50,000
What is Your Voice, Inc.	\$8,000
Wilmington & Western Railroad	\$5,000
Wilmington Senior Center	\$10,000
YMCA of Delaware	\$210,000
YWCA Delaware Inc.	\$35,000



FUNDING TARGETS

- 20%**
Children & Seniors: \$637,227
- 16%**
Health Services: \$495,921
- 16%**
Case Management: \$518,268
- 14%**
Housing: \$445,940
- 12%**
Food Supplies: \$387,386
- 11%**
Arts & Humanities: \$356,075
- 6%**
Community Outreach: \$200,500
- 5%**
Education: \$162,000



Let's Continue to Make a Difference for Delawareans Through the Pandemic *and Beyond*

The impact of these grants—made possible by the outpouring of support from people like you—demonstrates the power of collective giving.

As we look to a brighter future, one thing is certain: You can make a difference through the Delaware Community Foundation.

Consider partnering with us in the future, by:

- Opening a charitable fund.
- Establishing a legacy gift.
- Supporting our community leadership work with a gift to the Annual Leadership Campaign.

Contact us to learn about these and other ways you can make a difference in Delaware.

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ABOUT THE DELAWARE COVID-19 STRATEGIC RESPONSE FUND

The Delaware COVID-19 Strategic Response Fund is part of the Delaware COVID-19 Emergency Response Initiative, a nonprofit collaborative response to the coronavirus pandemic. The Delaware Community Foundation, Delaware Alliance for Nonprofit Advancement, Philanthropy Delaware and United Way of Delaware are working together to coordinate charitable resources throughout the state, in an effort to maximize the impact of the grants and target communities with the most need. The fund includes gifts from:

Bank of America

Barclays

Capital One

Comenity Bank

Corporation Service Company

Crestlea Foundation

Delaware Community Foundation

Discover

DuPont

Fulton Bank

Fund for Women

Gates Foundation

Highmark

Jeff and Rhonda Banning Foundation

Jesse Ball Du Pont Fund

JP Morgan Chase

Laffey-McHugh

Longwood Foundation

M&T

New Castle County

TD Bank

Welfare Foundation

WSFS Bank

The fund also includes \$135,300 from more than 275 individual donors.

The Delaware Community Foundation has waived all administrative fees for this fund.
100% of donations go to organizations helping people in need.

For more information, visit delcf.org/covid19-fund.

DELAWARE COVID-19 STRATEGIC RESPONSE FUND
DELAWARE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
PO BOX 1636
WILMINGTON DE 19899-1636



Learn more about all the 2020-2021 grantees at delcf.org/covid-grantees.

delcf.org/covid19-fund