



We asked the Combined Charity Federations to tell us how COVID-19 is affecting their organizations. Here are their responses.

Community Health Charities

Helping vulnerable populations (older adults and people with serious health conditions such as asthma, heart disease, diabetes, and more) impacted by coronavirus (COVID-19), by shoring up the capacity and building the long-term resilience of our 50 Minnesota community nonprofit partners who everyday ensure food, aid, shelter and medical supplies are delivered to those who need it most.

Community Shares of Minnesota

We provide essential general operating funding support for 40+ community and art organizations, funding is crucial to the social justice organizations we support. We know that many of our members will be disproportionately impacted by COVID-19, as they are serving underrepresented populations in our communities.

Greater Twin Cities United Way

When the threat of COVID-19 hit, GTCUW immediately connected with 95 nonprofit partners to identify the most pressing needs. When you give to the Fund, you provide immediate support such as food, shelter, childcare, sanitary and hygiene supplies and financial assistance to those most vulnerable to issues caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Minnesota Environmental Fund

Environmental protection agencies at the federal and state levels have relaxed rules for polluters during the pandemic, illustrating that Minnesota Environmental Fund members' work to protect our state's environment is as important as ever during this time. Your support for MEF will ensure the health of our environment and the protection of treasured outdoor spaces, from the Boundary Waters to the Mississippi, remain priorities in Minnesota.

Open Your Heart to the Hungry and Homeless

Hunger and homelessness in Minnesota has only been exacerbated by COVID-19, with individuals and families who were already experiencing unimaginable hardships facing less resources than ever before. Your support to Open Your Heart provides safe places for the homeless to recover in isolation, deploy street teams to work with those living in encampments, and increase food and supplies for individuals and families facing food insecurity.

PeaceMaker Minnesota

Students are missing opportunities for learning social emotional skills and developing a sense of community among their peers. Contributions are needed to help schools re-establish a sense of community, to prevent bullying and to help kids feel connected and valued.

United Negro College Fund (UNCF)

College students who have limited financial resources are facing challenges with housing and food insecurity, with a lack of proper equipment like laptops and tablets, and with limited, if no, access to the Internet and broadband access. Our historically black colleges and universities face the challenge of getting the technological infrastructure necessary to offer students an education that has suddenly moved from the classroom to online, so we are helping them quickly pivot to do that as well as providing emergency student aid where needed.

Women's Foundation of Minnesota

Women and girls are distinctly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic as service workers, caregivers, older women experiencing poverty at twice the rate of men, and as victims and survivors of violence and abuse. The Women's Foundation of Minnesota will make emergency grants to organizations serving women and girls experiencing gender-based violence, older women, and women and girls who need short-term financial support for everyday needs affected by COVID-19 including childcare, eldercare, food, housing, transportation, health, wellness, and safety from violence.

Greater Minnesota United Way Impacts

- Our Backpack Buddies weekend food pack program has grown from 450 students to 1,200 students.
- Over a 3-week period, 211 information referral specialists made a referral to a community resource every minute & 45 seconds. That's a human being providing needed community resources information to another human being every 105 seconds for 24 hrs. a day, 7 days a week for 3 weeks.
- We have poured out our resources to help homeless people and feed hungry people until we can no longer go on.
- 2 large local mines announced massive layoffs. Not only do the layoffs affect individuals but layoffs significantly affect our revenue and ability to provide resources.
- Our greatest need is access to resources, food, mental health services. We are working at connecting community members like puzzle pieces and making everything fit, especially in delivering food and supplies to shut ins.
- We found a milk man who is willing to help and a donor to help pay for this milk man's time and truck and then we put it all together.
- Our Community Action Center has done everything possible to remain open and supportive during this pandemic. In both Latinx and Somali families, financial strain is mounting, especially around food. (this from small town MN).

