

## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 24, 2020

### **Emergency Funds are available for residents affected by COVID-19 (Coronavirus).**

The health and well-being of the community is a top priority of United Way of St. Clair County (UWSCC). They are committed to ensuring that the county's most vulnerable families have the support they need to weather the short- and long-term impacts of the coronavirus outbreak. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, UWSCC's Board has made additional funds available through the organization's long-standing Emergency Services Fund.

The fund will be used for a multitude of efforts to help with recovery, including:

- Food, housing, utilities assistance
- Operational funding gaps for health and human service agencies
- Access to services for vulnerable populations

During this time of great concern, UWSCC has seen businesses, organizations, and residents join together and stand united for the benefit of all. This has partly been seen in the form of financial donations to UWSCC's Emergency Services Fund. The Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan, Meijer, and The Stebbins Family have already contributed significantly to the fund. These donations will greatly help to extend aid to St. Clair County residents as the community endures COVID-19 and recovers from the aftermath.

In accordance with Governor Whitmer's "Stay Home, Stay Safe" Executive Order, UWSCC's office will be closed at least through April 13, 2020. As always, 211 is a three-digit phone call available 24/7 to connect residents with information and referrals to help them through the COVID-19 pandemic. Learn more about 211 at [www.uwstclair.org/211](http://www.uwstclair.org/211). Get Connected. Get Help.

COVID-19 has just begun to impact our region. Communities are stronger when they are united, and it is going to take all of us to lessen the impacts and recover as a community. UWSCC and 211 are among many dedicated health and human service providers who are there for those who have become ill, lost their job, or seen a reduction in their hours. Visit [www.uwstclair.org/HealthFirst](http://www.uwstclair.org/HealthFirst) for a list of up-to-date and accurate resources and to read UWSCC's "Off Work Due to the Coronavirus" help sheet for tips.

**### Ends ###**

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#### **About United Way of St. Clair County**

The United Way of St. Clair County was founded in 1924. Its mission is to mobilize the community of St. Clair County to raise funds and resources to meet identified human service needs with the highest level of accountability and community involvement. For more information, visit [www.uwstclair.org](http://www.uwstclair.org).