

## 2021 EMERGENCY GRANTMAKING GUIDELINES

*The Board of Directors of the Healthcare Foundation Northern Sonoma County has approved the funding of an additional \$100,000 to the Emergency Healthcare Fund for 2021, which will bring the total of Emergency Fund grants distributed since the advent of COVID-19 to \$240,000. For this round, the Healthcare Foundation will open its first-ever responsive grant process. Grants will range in amounts of \$5,000 to \$15,000.*

*The purpose of the Emergency Healthcare Fund is to help stabilize critical physical and mental healthcare and food security providers who are on the frontlines serving the needs of our most under-resourced community members. **Emergency Grants will fund flexible, general operating support.***

### **Funding Priorities:**

**Sonoma County nonprofits that provide essential safety net services including access to physical and mental healthcare and food security, are encouraged to apply. Grants are restricted to organizations that serve northern Sonoma County (Windsor, Healdsburg, Geyserville and Cloverdale), including those that are based in adjacent areas that serve people in our region.**

At the Healthcare Foundation we are doing what we can to support the community and ensure that access to physical and mental healthcare and food security are at the center of efforts to respond to the crisis. Our work is grounded in the values that everyone has a right to quality physical and mental healthcare regardless of income, age, gender, race, or immigration status. When the crisis hit, we knew who would be most affected – people with underlying health issues, immigrants, low-wage workers in the hospitality and agricultural sector, people who are unhoused, and so many more.

The reality is that this crisis has brought to the forefront the existing inequities in our systems and institutions. Here in Sonoma County, our Latinx community has been disproportionately hurt by the virus in terms of incidence and severity: though the Latinx community represent approximately 30% of our population, approximately 70% of those who tested positive to date were Latinx.

Consistent with other communities of color that suffer from **structural racism and poverty**, the Latinx population has higher rates of diabetes and cardiovascular disease and asthma than their white counterparts. These pre-existing conditions correlate with higher rates of COVID-19 morbidity and mortality. In addition, the Latinx community has suffered unequal economic hardship caused by lost wages, which has untold health impacts.

Our intention is to address these healthcare inequities during our immediate response with our Emergency Healthcare Fund in 2020 and 2021. Our full-Board strategic planning process will address longer-term interventions and solutions, which will inform our grantmaking priorities for 2021 and beyond.

## **Types of Grants:**

Our Emergency Response Fund is designed to provide general operating support for frontline organizations. The application should take under one hour to complete, and the funds can be used for any purpose within the mission of the organization; reporting requirements are minimal. Grants will range in size from \$5,000 to \$15,000, depending on the needs, number of people served, and funds available.

## **General eligibility criteria for organizations:**

- **Serves northern Sonoma County, including Healdsburg, Windsor, Geyserville, and/or Cloverdale**
- **Clear statement of mission and goals**
- **Meets essential human needs for healthcare, mental healthcare, and/or food security**
- **Target populations are those most impacted by the pandemic including the Latinx, low-income or homeless communities**

## **Emergency Grant Timeline:**

December 15 –Application Opens

December 17 – Q&A Zoom meeting (zoom webinar)

January 15 – Application Closes

End of March – Grant Announcement

For more information, please visit <https://healthcarefoundation.net/grants/emergency-grant-info/> or e-mail [info@healthcarefoundation.net](mailto:info@healthcarefoundation.net).