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Round Four Grants from the COVID-19 Response Fund for Northern Virginia Offer Direct Financial Assistance to Families and Individuals

More than \$2 million from the Fund has been mobilized to benefit 72 nonprofits to date

May 26, 2020 (Oakton, VA) –The <u>Community Foundation for Northern Virginia</u> today announced the Round 4 grantees from the <u>COVID-19 Response Fund for Northern Virginia</u> including ALIVE!, Arlington Thrive, CASA de Virginia, Community Foundation for Loudoun and Northern Fauquier Counties, and Northern Virginia Family Service.

"So many individuals and families in our region continue to suffer terribly under the health and economic impacts of the coronavirus and its fallout. Applications for unemployment benefits are at an all-time high, and local human service nonprofit now report a 3 to 5-fold increase in demand for their services," said Eileen Ellsworth, President and CEO at the Community Foundation for Northern Virginia. "Direct financial assistance to individuals and families hardest hit by the crisis remains a top priority for our COVID-19 Response Fund."

Each of the Round 4 grantees have the experience, community reach, and infrastructure to deploy financial assistance to our most vulnerable families and individuals. The grants, which total \$280,000, will provide direct cash payments, emergency loans, and direct payments of rent, utilities, and groceries to those who most need it, as more fully described below.

In addition, through the grant to CASA de Virginia, we have given special attention to the disproportionate impact of the virus on the Latinx and Hispanic communities in Northern Virginia. Most of our health districts now report COVID-19 cases disaggregated by race and ethnicity. In the Fairfax Health District alone, for example, their most <u>recent data</u>

<u>dashboard</u> shows that Latinx and Hispanics constitute 16.8% of the total county population but 64.2% of the COVID-19 cases!

Launched on March 18, the <u>COVID-19 Response Fund for Northern Virginia</u> has distributed over \$1.4 million in grants to 72 local nonprofit organizations providing much needed services to individuals and families affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The complete list of grantees for the fourth round and previous rounds of funding can be found at www.cfnova.org/covid19

Round Four Grantees:

<u>ALIVE!</u> - \$40,000

Support for direct financial assistance to residents of the City of Alexandria through ALIVE!'s existing financial assistance program. Recipients are referred to the program by social workers and case managers from ALIVE!'s extensive network of congregations, nonprofits, civic organizations, city agencies, and volunteers. Clients receive up to \$500 for support for rent, utilities, medical expenses, or groceries.

Arlington Thrive - \$40,000

Support for same-day, emergency financial assistance to Arlington County's most vulnerable residents who have been impacted by the virus and its health and economic fallout. Clients include the working poor, elderly and disabled people on a fixed income, and the homeless and formerly homeless who need Arlington Thrive's funds as a "safety net" until they find firmer financial footing. Families with children are given the highest priority, and one-third of the individuals served by Arlington Thrive are children. The grant would serve approximately 250 individuals and families.

CASA de Virginia - \$40,000

Support for the Solidarity Fund that distributes direct cash assistance to Latinx and Hispanic immigrant communities across Northern Virginia who have been disproportionately impacted by the health and economic fallout of the virus. Families receive up to \$500 and individuals up to \$250 in direct cash assistance. Priority is given to people who have lost their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, uninsured and underinsured residents who are sick with the virus, parents of children identified through CASA's after school program who are in dire financial straits, and other families displaying extraordinary need who have been identified by CASA employees, volunteers, and community partners. The grant will serve approximately 60-64 families and individuals.

Community Foundation for Loudoun and Northern Fauquier Counties - \$40,000

Matching funds for the "Pay it Forward" direct assistance loan program of 100 Women Strong. Funding will help match a \$50,000 grant from 100 Women Strong for direct loan assistance to individuals and families in Loudoun County experiencing financial crisis. The program will be administered by Northern Virginia Family Service. Direct emergency assistance loans will be offered for rent, utilities, car loan payments, medical insurance, childcare needs, and the like. Loans will carry no interest for the first 6 months, then a 2% interest rate thereafter until fully paid. All interest and principal payments will solely benefit the Pay it Forward Fund balance for future deployment to Loudoun County's most vulnerable residents.

Northern Virginia Family Service - \$120,000

Support for residents in Fairfax County, Prince William County, Fairfax City, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park who seek help through NVFS' COVID-19 emergency assistance program for payment of medical bills, housing expenses, childcare, and other urgent needs. Help is deployed via an intake and case management system manned by NVFS employees. Case managers assist clients in accessing all available resources, which amplifies the reach of emergency assistance funds. Payments are made directly to service providers on the client's behalf.

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About Community Foundation for Northern Virginia

The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia grows philanthropy to respond to critical need, seed innovation and lead and convene the community. Comprised of donor advised funds, permanent funds, giving circles, and other charitable endowments, the Community Foundation connects donors to community and promotes a more equitable and inclusive prosperity that marries our economic strength with the full breadth of our diverse community. In 2019 the Community Foundation awarded more than \$5.4 million in grants and scholarships and reported more than \$72 million in managed philanthropic assets.

For more information please visit us at www.cfnova.org, follow up on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, <u>LinkedIn</u>, and <u>Instagram</u>.

*Information was updated June 16, 2020, to include Community Foundation for Loudoun and Northern Fauquier Counties