



United Way of the Black Hills

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Need Assistance? Dial 2-1-1

# UNITED WE STAND COVID-19 RELIEF FUND



## UPDATE NEWSLETTER: 5/1/2020

United Way of the Black Hills hopes you and your loved ones are staying healthy and safe during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. We're sharing updates on how we are helping our community, ways that you can get involved and resources to help you navigate during this time.

To date, the UNITED We Stand COVID-19 Relief Fund has raised **\$418,506.52**, and has received **28 applicants** for funding.

This week, we awarded grants to six more organizations, totaling **\$36,500**; for a total of **\$115,944** in grant awards to **14** organizations. Recent grantees include:

### **Black Hills Special Services Cooperative - \$12,000**

**The need:** A need for computers and technology for households to continue online education.

**How these funds will assist the need:** To purchase computers for households to continue online education for children and adult learning. In addition, BHSSC provides economic assistance to students via the recently created Student Support Fund. Funds are used for emergencies only; such needs as rent assistance, utilities, fuel, bus passes, employment uniform/attire, employment tools, education/training materials and supplies (including technology and devices, which was

recently added due to new needs in response to Coronavirus).

### **Volunteers of America - \$10,000**

**The need:** A lack of sufficient shelter for the homeless population due to the increase in CDC guidelines.

**How these funds will assist the need:** To provide shelter at a hotel/motel to upwards of 20 individuals.

### **WAVI (Women Working Against Violence) - \$5,000**

**The need:** An increase for food, essential non-food supplies, and activities for residents in the shelter.

**How these funds will assist the need:** To provide food and the necessary non-essential supplies to continue operations.

### **Spearfish Nutrition Site - \$4,000\***

**The need:** An increased need for meals to serve to local senior citizens.

**How these funds will assist the need:** To provide assistance to purchase meals.

*\*This amount will be matched by Black Hills Area Community Foundation*

### **Abbott House - \$3,000**

**The need:** A lack in supplies: Food, toilet paper, paper towels and creative supplies for mental wellness activities for residents.

**How these funds will assist the need:** To purchase the necessary supplies to continue day to day operations.

### **New Dawn Enterprises - \$2,500**

**The need:** A lack in toilet paper, paper towels and creative supplies for mental wellness activities for residents

**How these funds will assist the need:** To purchase the necessary supplies to continue day to day operations.

Our organization is carefully and thoroughly reviewing applications to ensure that donations directly impact the work of non-profits surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic.

Due to the changing nature of this time, we are in close contact with community representatives throughout the Black Hills to stay abreast of local issues and needs.

One of the top take-aways from these meetings is these needs will not decrease in one week, or even a few months. However, local non-profit organizations are feeling the impact in their operations, which may become a critical need in the coming months. Therefore, we must be prepared to continue to distribute funds as needs evolve and grow.

Rest assured that 100% of the funds will be distributed to awarded applicants. UWBH will continue accepting applications until all funds from the UNITED We Stand COVID-19 Relief Fund have been distributed.

Nonprofit organizations that have experienced an increased demand for services or resources due to the pandemic are [encouraged to apply for the grant.](#)

[We encourage you to visit our website to learn more about how these donations are helping the Black Hills community.](#)

We thank you for your support and commitment to helping those who need it most in our community. We hope you have a safe and healthy weekend.

Sincerely,

Jamie Toennies,  
Executive Director  
United Way of the Black Hills



Thanks to your generosity, the  
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has raised

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### FOOD

- Black Hills Works
- Boys and Girls Clubs of the Black Hills
- Club for Boys
- Salvation Army of the Black Hills
- Youth and Family Services
- Spearfish Nutrition Site

### ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

- Catholic Social Services
- Salvation Army of the Black Hills
- Club for Boys
- Youth and Family Services

### EDUCATIONAL SUPPORTS

- Black Hills Works
- Black Hills Special Services
- Boys and Girls Clubs of the Black Hills
- Club for Boys
- Youth and Family Services

### MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

- Catholic Social Services
- New Dawn Enterprises
- Wellfully

### SHELTER\*

*\*This includes emergency shelter, domestic violence shelter, and foster shelter*

- Abbott House
- New Dawn Enterprises
- Volunteers of America
- WAVI (Women Against Violence, Inc.)
- Wellfully

## What we are doing

**While our staff is working remotely, we are actively responding to this crisis in a number of ways:**

### A Community UNITED Panel Series

A Community UNITED Panel Series, hosted by United Way of the Black Hills, is a virtual round-table discussion where nonprofit leaders share some of the most pressing needs in our community.

[If you missed this panel this morning, click here to view it.](#)

A COMMUNITY UNITED PANEL SERIES


# MENTAL HEALTH VIRTUAL PANEL

FRIDAY, MAY 1ST AT 10 A.M.

HOSTED BY:





United Way of the Black Hills

A photograph of a young woman with long dark hair sitting at a desk in a library, looking at a laptop. Bookshelves filled with books are visible in the background.

## Internet Safety for teens

**1 PM** PRESENTED BY BRENT GROMER, THE CENTER  
FOR THE PREVENTION OF CHILD MALTREATMENT

**UNITED we grow**  
a web series  
hosted by  proudly supported by  
  
United Way of the Black Hills

## Internet Safety for Teens Tuesday, May 5th at 1 p.m.

Presented by Brent Gromer,  
The Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment

*Proudly Sponsored by Liberty Superstores*

**[All webinars will be streamed LIVE on the United Way of the Black Hills Facebook Page.](#)**

### **About the UNITED We Grow Webinar Series**

This series is intended to provide valuable education and resources specifically tailored to non-profit agencies. Topics to be discussed include: Cybersecurity & Working from Home; Budgeting in Crisis; Audit Considerations and Changes; Volunteerism During Social Distancing and more!

**[Click here to view a schedule of our upcoming sessions!](#)**



# Make the Most out of the Moment

**May 1-31**

**Vitalant Rapid City Donation Center  
2209 W. Omaha St.**



## **Make the Most out of the Moment**

Community Blood Drive and COVID-19 Response Fund Effort  
In partnership with Vitalant in Rapid City and the John T Vucurevich Foundation.

Help meet patients' blood needs and your support for our community will be multiplied. Donate blood in May at Vitalant in Rapid City and the John T Vucurevich Foundation will make a donation to the UNITED We Stand COVID-19 Community Response Fund, giving \$5,000 for every 100 donation appointments honored up to \$50,000. Help us reach our goal of 1,000 donors! Appointments are required.

[Click here for more information](#)

## **Resources for COVID-19**

We are committed to helping our community navigate these difficult times. We continue mobilizing resources to lend assistance in a variety of ways.

Our [Educational Resources page](#) provides parents and caregivers with tools to help students with online learning, arts and crafts, activities, fitness and more. Additionally, there are links to the five school districts in our region and the help they are providing.

For immediate assistance, please dial 2-1-1.

We also encourage you to go our [COVID-19 Information page](#) for more resources.

## **How to help**

**GIVE**

to the UNITED We Stand  
COVID-19 Relief Fund

TEXT 'BHCVIDHELP' TO 41444

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