ST. DAVID’S FOUNDATION COVID-19 RECOVERY FUND: 
LIFTING UP CENTRAL TEXAS TODAY AND TOMORROW

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

Overview:
Across the world and in Central Texas, the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on the nonprofit community is profound. Organizations are experiencing precipitous declines in fundraising and decreased revenue due to client and patient inability to attend in-person visits (e.g., clinics). Meanwhile, many others have experienced a tremendous increase in requests for services due to layoffs and childcare needs (e.g., food banks and pantries, childcare centers for healthcare and other front line workers). Based on preliminary survey results of more than 450 nonprofit organizations, nearly 80% had already experienced significant disruption of services to clients or communities by April 1. Additionally, approximately one third of survey respondents only have enough funds to operate for two to six months under current conditions with nearly 20% expressing inability to operate beyond two months.*

To respond to our community’s most urgent needs during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Foundation has created the St. David’s Foundation COVID-19 Recovery Fund: Lifting Up Central Texas Today and Tomorrow, which will provide support to nonprofits impacted during this extraordinary time. The fund will provide grants supporting both the immediate and intermediate needs of nonprofits working on the front lines to provide emergency assistance to those in Central Texas’ most vulnerable communities impacted by COVID-19.

This fund is designed to complement the efforts of local and state health departments, public health officials, and federal subsidies – while expanding local capacity to address aspects of the pandemic as immediately and efficiently as possible. Beyond these immediate needs facing our community, we believe this public health crisis has created an extraordinary moment to call for greater health equity within the Central Texas community, and we are committed to partnering with our neighbors throughout this time.

Priority populations for this fund include older adults at risk of social isolation, women, children, and vulnerable populations, with special attention given for our rural communities in Bastrop, Hays, Caldwell, Williamson, and Travis counties. Direct service providers, such as those supporting essential healthcare, human services, and food insecurity directly connected to COVID-19 are vital in this recovery effort and will be prioritized for funding through this significant initiative. Furthermore, the fund will also prioritize work related to factors that impact health and well-being including telehealth, mental health, and youth serving organizations.

General FAQs

Q1: What is the St. David’s Foundation COVID-19 Recovery Fund?
A: The St. David’s Foundation COVID-19 Recovery Fund is a $10 million recovery fund created to support 501(c)(3) nonprofits located in Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Travis and Williamson Counties, that have been impacted by the global COVID-19 pandemic.

Q2: Why was the St. David’s Foundation COVID-19 Recovery Fund created?
A: St. David’s Foundation is strategically committed to the health and well-being of the Central Texas community. Recognizing the existential impact and unprecedented circumstances caused by the global COVID-19 pandemic, St. David’s Foundation created the fund to provide grants supporting both the immediate and intermediate needs of nonprofits working on the front lines to provide emergency assistance to those in Central Texas’ most vulnerable communities impacted by COVID-19.

Q3: What is the goal of the St. David’s Foundation COVID-19 Recovery Fund?
A: The St. David’s Foundation COVID-19 Recovery Fund aims to ensure that nonprofits on the front lines of the COVID-19 crisis can continue operating today, so that their important contributions will be felt tomorrow. St. David’s Foundation hopes to alleviate some of the needs of our community – both the urgent and eventual – as we look to stabilize and then rebuild.

Q4: Who will benefit from the St. David’s Foundation COVID-19 Recovery Fund?
A: The St. David’s Foundation COVID-19 Recovery Fund will benefit nonprofits working on the front lines to provide emergency assistance to those impacted by COVID-19. Priority populations for this fund include older adults at risk of social isolation, women, children, and vulnerable populations, with special attention given for our rural communities. Direct service providers, such as those supporting essential healthcare, human services, and food insecurity directly connected to COVID-19, are vital in this recovery effort and will be prioritized for funding through this significant initiative. Furthermore, the fund will also prioritize work related to other factors that impact health and well-being including telehealth, mental health, and youth serving organizations.

Q5: How does the St. David’s Foundation COVID-19 Recovery Fund align with St. David’s Foundation’s focus on health equity?
A: Health equity, especially during this global pandemic, requires a prioritization of available assets to those most in need, in order to mitigate critical loss and provide relief where vital resources may be lacking. Across all of the Foundation’s goals and principles, we are guided by a commitment to achieve health equity. We believe all Central Texans should have the opportunity to achieve optimal health and there are no avoidable, unnecessary, or systemically caused differences in health status (due to age, ethnicity, gender, or geography). Eliminating health disparities cannot be accomplished without seriously addressing the underlying social determinants of health.
Q6: How do I apply?
A: Beginning on Monday, April 13th, St. David’s Foundation grantees and other local nonprofits impacted by COVID-19 can submit their applications for the St. David’s Foundation COVID-19 Recovery Fund.


To strategically coordinate resources, there will be three application submission deadlines throughout 2020: May 7, August 13 and October 15. Applications are to be submitted by 3 p.m. CT. Complete applications for the first round of funding can be submitted starting April 13, 2020. Please note, funding will be phased in the coming months in 2020 – based on the impact of efforts to mitigate the impact of this crisis as well as the level of need and urgency.

Q7: Who is eligible to apply?
A: The lead organization/applicant must be a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization or a public entity in our Central Texas community (Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Travis, and Williamson Counties). For more information please refer to the following resources:

Q8: Are there any priority applicants or funding areas of focus?
A: Priority populations for this fund include older adults at risk of social isolation, women, children, and vulnerable populations, with special attention given for our rural communities. Direct service providers, such as those supporting essential healthcare, human services, and food insecurity directly connected to COVID-19 are vital in this recovery effort and will be prioritized for funding through this significant initiative. Furthermore, the fund will also prioritize work related to other factors that impact health and well-being including telehealth, mental health, and youth serving organizations.

Q9: Can you tell me more about how these funds may be used?
A: For those eligible the funds are for unrestricted, general operating grants. Grants to universities and municipalities, operating without a non-profit partner, are restricted to the purpose stated in the grant application.

Q10: When will the fund be open for applications?
A: Completed applications for the first round of funding will be accepted beginning April 13, 2020 and due at 3 pm CST on May 7th. Applications for future cycles, ending August 13 and October 15, will open at a later date, updates will be announced on our website and social media channels.
Q11: How many phases of funding will be offered?
A: To strategically coordinate resources, there will be three application submission deadlines throughout 2020: May 7, August 13 and October 15. Applications are to be submitted by 3 p.m. CT. Please note, funding will be phased in the coming months based on the impact of efforts to mitigate the impact of this crisis as well as the level of need and urgency.

Q12: How will funding decisions change over the three phases?
A: The St. David’s Foundation COVID-19 Recovery Fund will focus first on immediate and intermediate needs for those most impacted by COVID-19 during the initial phases of funding. Details regarding the long-term rebuild/recovery phase are forthcoming and are dependent on the changing needs of our community and progress made throughout the immediate and intermediate phases.

Q13: How soon does the Foundation anticipate to award and distribute funds?
A: St. David’s Foundation will review applications in a timely manner and anticipates decisions to be finalized and communicated within a month of the submission deadline.

Q14: How will/did the Foundation determine the recipients of the St. David’s Foundation COVID-19 Recovery Fund?
A: The Foundation will prioritize nonprofits working on the front lines to provide emergency assistance to those impacted by COVID-19 with immediate and intermediate needs. Recipients include nonprofits that work with priority populations, including older adults at risk of social isolation, women, children, and vulnerable populations, with special attention given to our rural communities. Recipients also include those whose work prioritizes health and well-being including telehealth, mental health, and youth serving organizations, as well as direct service providers, such as those supporting essential healthcare, human services, and food insecurity directly connected to COVID-19.

Q15: In what other ways has St. David’s Foundation responded to the COVID-19 crisis?
A: As of March 2020, St. David’s Foundation converted nearly $16 million in existing grants allowing for flexibility to fund general operating expenses for our current grantees as they navigate the impact through this evolving and uncertain time. In addition, the Foundation continues to evaluate community-wide, collaborative funds supporting COVID-19 relief initiatives to determine how to make meaningful and strategic impact within the Central Texas region.

Q16: Will St. David’s Foundation be providing any additional resources or participating in any collaborative relief efforts?
A: St. David’s Foundation continues to evaluate community-wide, collaborative funds supporting COVID-19 relief initiatives, such as the All Together ATX Fund, to determine how to have a further, more meaningful,
and strategic impact within the Central Texas region.

Q17: How has the COVID-19 pandemic impacted the Central Texas nonprofit community?
A: Across the world and in Central Texas, the effect of COVID-19 on the nonprofit community is profound. Many organizations are experiencing precipitous drops in fundraising and decreased revenue, while others are experiencing tremendous increases in requests for services due to layoffs and childcare requirements. This is not just a short-term crisis but, more profoundly, a long-term health issue with implications far beyond what can be imagined. St. David’s Foundation hopes to alleviate some of these needs – both the urgent and eventual – through our COVID-19 initiatives as we look to stabilize and then rebuild.

Q18: I’d like to interview someone within the Foundation on the fund. Who should I contact?
A: Media inquiries can be submitted to: mediainquiries@stdavidsfoundation.org. A member of the communications team will respond as soon as possible to coordinate next steps.

Q19: How will the Fund adapt to changing needs as the situation evolves?
A: In an effort to strategically deploy resources and meaningfully support our community, all decisions regarding funding are at the discretion of St. David’s Foundation. The Foundation may adjust resources as health equity needs evolve and the community adapts to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Q20: If my organization is focused on statewide services, including the five county Central Texas region, am I eligible for funding?
A: Yes. If the lead organization/applicant is a tax exempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization or a public entity based in Central Texas (Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Travis, Williamson counties) and also provides services statewide, they are eligible for funding.

Please note: In an effort to strategically deploy resources and meaningfully support our community, all funding decisions are at the discretion of St. David’s Foundation. Applicants may be asked for additional documents throughout the review process.

Contact Us:
- General questions & inquiries about the St. David’s Foundation COVID-19 Recovery Fund can be directed to: sdfrecoveryfund@stdavidsfoundation.org
- Media inquiries can be submitted to: mediainquiries@stdavidsfoundation.org