Lifting Up Central Texas Today and Tomorrow

COVID-19 Recovery Fund – Phase II

Funding Priorities and Eligibility

Overview
This Request for Proposals is the second application cycle (Phase II) for the St. David’s Foundation COVID-19 Recovery Fund. We continue to listen and learn from those serving our community to identify the areas of greatest need and opportunity for support. The fund is intended to complement efforts of public and private support to help our Central Texas community address the health and economic impact of the pandemic.

Importantly, the pandemic has highlighted structural and racial inequities in our community and country, and we believe that healing and recovery will require a deeper level of intentional involvement of the communities disproportionately affected by the health and economic crisis.

Beginning on Monday, July 20th, St. David’s Foundation grantees, other local nonprofits, and public entities impacted by COVID-19 can submit their applications for Phase II the St. David’s Foundation COVID-19 Recovery Fund and learn more here: https://stdavidsfoundation.org/covid19-recovery-fund/

The deadline for all Phase II applications is 3 p.m. CT on August 13, 2020 and must be submitted within the grant portal. Emailed, faxed, or mailed applications will not be accepted. Late submissions will not be accepted.

While the Fund seeks to strengthen and support all of the Central Texas community, particular attention and priority will be given to supporting communities who are inequitably bearing the brunt of this crisis. This includes serving:

- People of color
- Refugees and immigrants (regardless of legal status)
- People experiencing homelessness
- People with disabilities
- LGBTQ communities

To ensure the voices of these communities are brought to the fore, priority will be given to requests from organizations that:

- Are led and informed by individuals who represent the populations they serve.
- Foster peer-driven change by placing individuals and families at the center and allowing them to define and lead for themselves the improvements they seek in their lives and communities given that they are closest to the challenges they face.
- Collaborate and coordinate with other providers to best leverage and complement their organizational strengths.
- Cultivate mutual support among individuals and families by identifying and fostering opportunities for the exchange of shared knowledge and peer experiences to better distribute resources and offer a sense of trust and purpose to participants.

To support organizations in responding and adapting to changing environments, all COVID-19 funding, with the exception of those made to universities and public/governmental entities, will be awarded as unrestricted grants.
Recovery Fund Phase II Priorities

St. David’s Foundation continues to listen and learn from those serving our community to identify the areas of greatest need and opportunity for support. In Phase II, St. David’s Foundation is soliciting proposals to address one or more of the following four priorities:

- **Behavioral health and emotional well-being:** Community and individual healing
- **Basic needs:** Essentials for every family during these times
- **Childcare:** Supporting working parents and caregivers
- **Health care services:** Preserving access

Within these priorities, we welcome proposals for proven, effective, and impactful approaches and programs, as well as for innovative, community-led approaches that offer creative and sustainable solutions to problems caused by COVID-19. The Foundation remains committed to listening, learning and adapting our ways of working based on the ever-evolving needs of the community during this health and financial crisis. As we learn of other emergent issues, we will continue to be as flexible as possible to meet the complex and urgent needs of the community.

1. **Behavioral health and emotional well-being: Community and individual healing**
   Many of our Central Texas neighbors are facing profound uncertainty, financial hardship, and isolation. The pandemic, along with the economic impact of mitigation efforts imposed to control it, are expected to increase the rate of mental health and substance use disorders, including deaths associated with suicide, overdose, and violence (especially intimate partner violence and child abuse).\(^1\) In addition, the impact of structural racism and the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on communities of color requires support for the primary and secondary trauma experienced. There are many ways that support for behavioral health and emotional well-being can be provided to members of our community. Grants under this priority will support services provided under the traditional mental health model (e.g., 1:1 therapy/counseling, virtual group visits) as well as community-based approaches.

   The Foundation is particularly interested in approaches that are delivered outside of the traditional medical model to relieve stress and allow for healing. This includes individuals and families using their own and their peers’ experiences to help each other by sharing knowledge and resources. Examples of interventions/services eligible for funding within this priority are:
   - Parent education;
   - Peer support groups;
   - Outreach activities to provide social connection for vulnerable/isolated populations;
   - Youth engagement and development;
   - Individual and group counseling;
   - Community healing activities.

2. **Basic Needs: Essentials for every family during these times**
   The COVID-19 pandemic continues to devastate individuals and families through the loss of jobs and incomes. As families cope with new financial challenges, many have experienced serious material hardships including inability to pay rent, mortgage, or utility bills, experiencing food insecurity, and going without medical care because of the cost. Financial distress also limits the ability to access technology for communication, information, resources, and education.

---

\(^1\) Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute (MMHPI) Response Briefing, April 28, 2020
The Foundation is particularly interested in supporting organizations with deep relationships with communities who have been disproportionately impacted by this health and economic crisis. There is particular interest in grants to help navigate and assist individuals in securing help from existing support services (such as unemployment, health insurance enrollment, food assistance, emergency housing supports, etc.). Examples of interventions/services eligible for funding within this priority are:

- Food distribution to supplement/augment existing distribution networks;
- Rent assistance;
- Utility assistance;
- Broad band access;
- Navigating and assisting individuals in securing help from existing sources (e.g. unemployment, health insurance, food supports).

3. **Childcare: Supporting working parents and caregivers**

Sufficient supply of high-quality, affordable childcare is needed to allow parents and caregivers to resume work, families to manage stress, and for children to acquire necessary social, emotional and cognitive skills. The Foundation is open to supporting formal, center-based care, as well as home-based childcare. While this category will prioritize care for young children (0-5), care for school-aged children either after school or when school is not in session is also eligible.

Examples of interventions/services eligible for funding within this priority are:

- Costs necessary to resume or maintain operations with reduced capacity;
- Temporary subsidies to help cover the cost of childcare for families experiencing financial distress;
- Costs for cleaning and prevention practices;
- Support for home-based childcare providers to meet licensing standards.

4. **Health care services: Preserving access**

Many individuals in our community receive crucial services from non-profit health care focused organizations to support their health and physical well-being. These organizations are central in supporting the physical health of the most vulnerable in our community, many of whom have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. Health care focused nonprofits have been required to quickly transition to continue to provide health services. Grants under this priority will provide support to organizations providing health care focused services to enable them to make necessary changes to continue to provide safe access to high quality services to community members in need. Requests may be made for the following:

- Costs to support needed adaptations to chronic disease management for patients who have ongoing chronic care needs (including, but not limited to, supporting and equipping patients to self-manage remotely);
- Costs to purchase equipment and supplies and provide necessary training and technical assistance to transition to telehealth and remote service delivery;
- COVID-19 contact tracing;
- Costs to support practice modifications for social distancing due to the shift to virtual / telehealth delivery;
- Costs for personal protective equipment (PPE) and cleaning/sanitization supplies;
- Costs associated with new and emergency needs to continue health care services.
 Eligibility Criteria
Organizations applying for St. David’s Foundation COVID-19 Recovery Fund grants must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Be a tax exempt 501(c)(3) organization or a public entity
- Not discriminate against participants or job applicants on the basis of race/ethnicity, creed, color, religion, sexual orientation, age, disability or handicap, sex, national origin, ancestry, citizenship status, genetic information, marital status or veteran status.
- Provide services in at least one of the following Central Texas counties: Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Travis or Williamson.
- Have not received a grant from Phase I of the St. David’s Foundation COVID-19 Recovery Fund.
- Demonstrate reasonable financial capacity and oversight.
- We are not able to fund individuals or businesses directly, labor unions, or other 501(c)4, 501(c)5, and 501(c)6 organizations.
- If your organization meets all other criteria but is not officially a 501(c)(3), a fiscal sponsor is needed to apply for this grant.
- Existing St. David’s Foundation grant partners (in Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Travis, Williamson counties) with an active St. David’s Foundation grant are eligible to apply.

Funding Levels
Funding limits for applicants are determined by an organization’s operational budget from the previous fiscal year. St. David’s Foundation will implement the following ceilings on grant awards based on applicant organization budget size:

- “Small” organizations, defined as those with an operating budget up to $300,000, are eligible to apply for funding up to $50,000 for 12 months.
- “Medium” organizations, defined as those with an operating budget between $300,000 to $2 million, are eligible to apply for funding up to $100,000 for 12 months.
- “Large” organizations, defined as those with an operating budget of more than $2 million, are eligible to apply for funding up to $150,000 for 12 months.

For those eligible, the funds are for unrestricted, general operating grants. Although the application requires a high-level project budget, this is to provide insight into your current plan for funds knowing that these uses may change as circumstances evolve. Grants to universities and municipalities, operating without a non-profit partner, are restricted to the purpose stated in the grant application.

About St. David’s Foundation
St. David’s Foundation is a health foundation funding in a five-county area surrounding Austin, Texas. Through a unique partnership with St. David’s HealthCare, a Malcolm Baldrige award-winning hospital system in Central Texas, the Foundation reinvests proceeds from the hospital system back into the community, with a goal of building the healthiest community in the world. St. David’s Foundation also operates the largest mobile dental program providing charity care in the country and runs the largest healthcare scholarship program in Texas.

For more information about St. David’s Foundation, visit www.stdavidsfoundation.org.