CFMC Live Local Give Local Emergency Fund Grants Program FAQ

Organizations are strongly encouraged to read this FAQ and the Instructions PDF prior to submission.

1. What organizations may submit an application?
   • All 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations and 170(b) organizations able to receive a tax-deductible contribution, such as schools, faith-based organizations, and other public entities are eligible.
   • We are not able to fund individuals or businesses directly, labor unions, or other 501(c) organizations.

2. I am an individual affected by the COVID-19 situation. Can I apply for assistance from this Fund?
   • The Community Foundation of Middlesex County is not able to provide grants to individuals.

3. Is there a maximum amount our organization may request?
   • No, but we do ask that nonprofit organizations please recognize that the needs are great and funding resources may be limited.
   • We ask that organizations consider their “ask” in light of the many needs within our community. Please understand that we will be fielding many requests from throughout our 15-town footprint and we want to provide support to as many organizations as possible.

4. How are applications submitted?
   • CFMC online application submission process.
   • The link to the application is on the Live Local Give Local Emergency Fund Grants Program page.

5. Is there a geographic focus for this fund?
   • Yes, funding requests must directly impact any, some, or all of the fifteen (15) towns of Middlesex County.

6. What is the process for applying?
   • To move resources quickly, the application process is “rolling,” and we are not designating a specific “close” date for submissions at this time.
   • Please complete the online application so that we are aware of your needs as the granting process progresses.

7. Is the process restricted to priority needs and issues or open to all requests?
   • At this time, we are most interested in those existing services and programs that aid our community in ensuring our residents have access to the essentials and support the “reopening” of our community in a safe and protected way.
   • Requests for funding may include, but are not limited to,
     o food banks and pantries and meal delivery programs;
     o youth and child care services and camps which are currently serving families and meet all of the certifications required by state and local authorities;
     o senior services;
     o existing programs which promote connecting community through education, arts, culture, and wellness;
     o existing mental health programs;
     o family assistance support services through existing programs.
   • Additional organization needs have been identified as Connecticut moves into the “opening phases,” and these include, but are not limited to:
     o To assist organizations in complying with COVID-19 regulations and guidelines as they transition their programs and services for the phased re-opening, and
     o re-opening operational needs of nonprofits, including technology resources to maintain employees and clients as well as safety needs (i.e., PPE and cleaning supplies).
• In the future, if funding allows, requests for support for mid-to-long term recovery and rebuilding efforts after COVID-19 will be considered.

8. **What will NOT be included in this phase of funding?**
   • While we anticipate there are both acute needs now as well as planning for the longer-term impacts of the recovery, we are focusing on immediate, shorter-term, and priority needs at this time.
   • At this time, we are not considering applications for
     o lost revenue or potential lost future revenue due to canceled events or programs;
     o lost revenue due to postponement or cancellation of regular appeals and membership renewals;
     o recouping lost operations dollars due to an organization closure during the first phase of the COVID-19 pandemic shutdown; or
     o larger public institutions that are strained by increased demand for services.
   • We recognize these challenges, and as the crisis and long-term impacts continue to unfold, we will continue to assess and evolve our funding strategies.

9. **Are there certain items CFMC won’t consider supporting:**
   • Grants directly to individuals.
   • Organizations that, in their constitution, bylaws or practice, discriminate against a person or group on the basis of age, race, national origin, ethnicity, gender, disability, sexual orientation or identification, political affiliation, or religious belief.
   • Programs or materials that would normally be included in the regular operating budget for municipal/government agencies or schools.
   • Annual fundraising campaigns or event sponsorships.
   • Payment of debt or legal settlements or Repayment of SBA, PPP, or other COVID-19 related loans;
   • Political or partisan purposes, campaigns, or lobbying activities.
   • Projects that exclusively serve religious purposes, although religious organizations providing non-religious community services will be considered.
   • Endowments, reserve funds, capital campaigns, or annual fund drives.

10. **Do I have to apply for an SBA or PPP loan to be eligible for this grant?**
    • No. However, as part of our due diligence, and to better understand the organization’s needs and access to revenue, we may ask the status of any loans or funding applications which have been submitted and/or received.

11. **When will you share who you fund?**
    • Grants will be distributed on a rolling basis.
    • If you do not hear anything from CFMC, your application is still being considered.
    • Applications may be tabled during the process for future consideration.
    • Organizations will be notified as to the action on their application should it be funded or denied.
    • We will continue to fund requests as long as funding is available.
    • We will publish the list of selected grantees in our News section.

12. **What happens if my application is denied? Can I get feedback on my application if it’s denied?**
    • Should your application be denied, please consider re-applying at a future date.
    • While we appreciate the opportunity to share feedback, we will not be able to provide feedback on declined applications at this time due to the anticipated resources required to review and award grants.

We extend a heartfelt thank you to our donors who have contributed to the [Live Local Give Local Emergency Fund](#). Thanks to their generosity, 100% of the contributions to this Fund will support our nonprofits.

*Updated June 1, 2020*