

Dear Brazos Valley nonprofit directors, community business leaders, and philanthropic partners:

During times of uncertainty, the **Brazos Valley comes together to support each other**. COVID-19 is a new test of our collective strength. As physical distancing and self-quarantining become part of everyday life, we're facing new economic challenges. To support the escalating need and in an effort to provide a rapid-response, community nonprofits are partnering with local governments and businesses to launch a relief fund for Brazos Valley residents and businesses that face economic uncertainty as the region continues to follow CDC, state and city guidelines designed to contain the spread of COVID-19.

The Brazos Valley COVID-19 Community Relief Fund is being spearheaded by United Way of the Brazos Valley, the Community Foundation of the Brazos Valley, the Bryan/College Station Chamber of Commerce, the City of Bryan and the City of College Station in partnership with Janet Briaud and Natalie Pine, Stylecraft Builders, the Community Foundation of the Brazos Valley - Fries Financial Services, Tim and Travis Bryan, First Financial Bank, and numerous business partners and philanthropists who have helped launch this relief fund. Additional information is available at <https://www.uwbv.org/covid19>

For those nonprofits located in surrounding BV counties, we invite you to share this information with community/business leaders and invite donors within your community to come alongside us and support this effort.

Nearly \$275,000 has been raised by generous donors since last Friday. More importantly, grants from this fund will support nonprofit organizations serving individuals impacted by COVID-19 with food, utility and rent assistance as well as supporting small businesses with payroll assistance and rent grants due to the economic impact of this virus.

The first round of applications is now open! Choose one of the links below to begin your application, and the first-round of applications must be submitted by 5 p.m. tomorrow [Friday].

Small Business Grant Application

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScjx13NwmekLiqeEVrIYVF_rY42B2MZ-U24MGibHtVMavDN8w/viewform

Nonprofit Grant Application

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe1vWeb5XqEjNP-6yc7pD64vWn37KX1ehnXdrsvJYqiJ7J7xq/viewform>

These grants are available for qualifying businesses and nonprofits to receive up to \$15,000 in payroll, rent and program assistance. Subsequent application windows will open in the coming weeks.

If you have any questions about grant qualifications or submission, please contact Peggi Goss, Vice President of Community Impact for United Way of the Brazos Valley, at pgoss@uwbv.org.

If you are interested in donating to our Community Relief Fund, text BVCovid19 to 41444.

We are one community -- and we are greater when we work together!