

Our Community. Your Foundation.

Impact Update: Spring 2020



Message from the President

Dear Friends,

These are times that test the very best of us and to keep this brief as we all have much to do, you can rest assured that our non-profit community that serves our most vulnerable, is up for the challenge.

Over the past two weeks we have seen collaboration, compassion, intelligence, and humility from our community that comes from a clarity of purpose and the urgency of now. We have also seen a donor community that leads with, "how can I help?". We will get through this. Together. Be safe.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Vasconcellos".

John Vasconcellos,
President

Among these tough times, we're in this together.

The SouthCoast Emergency Response Fund will provide flexible resources to organizations that are working with communities at the intersection of being most vulnerable to the COVID-19 virus and most impacted by inequity.

It will make one-time operating grants to support frontline organizations with deep roots within priority populations.

These populations include:

- Vulnerable seniors and youth
- People without stable housing
- Families and individuals who are food scarcity
- Residents who have limited English proficiency
- Individuals with health vulnerabilities, including those with compromised immune systems, mental health disorders and/or who are struggling with addiction.

The first phase of these rapid-response grants will provide flexible support to organizations:

- Support the ability for organizations to provide remote services
- Responding to increased demand for basic needs and health support
- Providing outreach to vulnerable populations
- Addressing fear and confusion about the outbreak among the region's most vulnerable



residents

- Addressing immediate needs of economically vulnerable populations caused by closures and cancellations related to COVID-19

In order to move resources quickly and not further burden organizations on the frontlines of the pandemic, we are not hosting a formal application process, at this time. Funds will be released on a rolling basis as fundraising continues, making it possible to move resources quickly and adapt to evolving needs in subsequent funding phases. The fund expects to make an initial round of grants by April 3rd.

For FAQ's about this fund, nonprofit resources and updated COVID19 news please visit our [website](#).

Support Today



Our Weekly Virtual Meeting: 'Meet Me For Coffee'

Over the past few weeks, we've hosted our weekly 'Meet Me for Coffee' – a virtual gathering of our nonprofits that allows for time to check-in with each other, express support, share some comradery, and most importantly, stay connected. With over 75 participants on the call, the need and appreciation for this was very clear and we want to thank those who have joined and voiced their concerns.

This grants our community the opportunity to be transparent, share ideas and show support during this time. If you are a regional nonprofit leader interested in joining the conversation, please email our staff kheard@cfsema.org for more information.

Now Accepting Applications for the James Arnold Fund

The James Arnold Fund was established in 1891 through the estate of James Arnold for the "poor and needy of New Bedford who may be deserving." That said, the fund will support those 501(c) (3) local organizations that service this population with priority given to organizations/ programs focused immigration, teaching, and hunger.

Applications are due Friday, April 3, 2020

We've updated our software! If you are applying for a 2020 grant for the first time, you will have to [create a new account](#) to access the grant portal.

For more information please visit our [website](#).

Your Foundation In The News

- [Community Foundation increases student financial aid support through new partnerships.](#) We announced our pilot partnership with uAspire. Application period has closed for the majority of our scholarships and we will be making award decisions in the coming weeks. This year we stand to give away \$400k+.

- [Now appearing in Fall River: 'Through Our Eyes' photography banners.](#) Take a look at our Creative Commonwealth Initiative grantee, who installed beautiful public art within the neighborhoods of Fall River, Massachusetts.
- [New Bedford launches 2020 Census Effort.](#) As a member of the New Bedford Complete Count Committee, we urge you to support the 2020 New Bedford Census.

Staff Highlights

Rayana's PLACES Fellowship

The [PLACES Fellowship](#) through the Funders' Network develops tools and provides resources to help funders understand and eliminate the disproportionate impact of these decisions. During this year-long fellowship, Rayana will meet with grant makers from across the country to become equipped with the tools and resources to understand, challenge, and change systemic inequities in philanthropy. Congratulations Rayana!



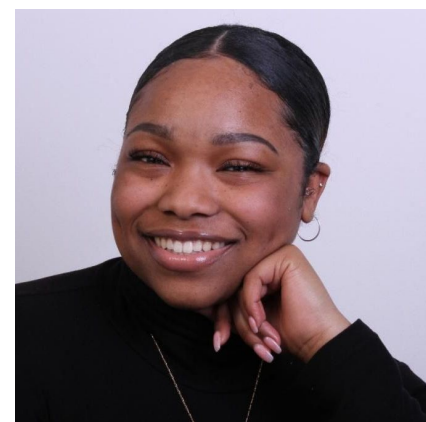
Holly Participates in Leadership SouthCoast

In January, [Leadership SouthCoast](#) announced their 2020 class. Leadership SouthCoast cultivates a diverse network of regional leaders who are prepared and motivated to strengthen and improve the region. This is a group of passionate and dedicated community members from across the region including our own, Holly Weeden! Congratulations to all!



Welcome Jasmyn

Please join us in welcoming Jasmyn, our new Marketing and Communications Coordinator. Jasmyn is a New Bedford native, and holds a bachelors degree in Marketing from UMass Dartmouth and her masters degree in Media Management from The New School. We're very excited to have her here at the Community Foundation.



We're in this together
Be sure to take care of yourself and let's take care of each other

Connect with the Community Foundation on social media!



128 Union St., Suite 403, New Bedford, MA 02740 | 508-996-8253 | www.cfsema.org