

GIVING INSIGHTS

Responding to COVID-19



The interests of our funding community inform the choice of issues we cover in each Giving Insights publication.

Overview

Most of us did not imagine that 2020 would find us sheltering in place, in the midst of a global pandemic. In a time that sometimes feels desperate, we are heartened and inspired by our donor community and your commitment to helping our world.

Giving during a crisis can seem overwhelming; there are many choices to navigate. This guide provides some ways to think about funding strategy and identifies organizations that fit into several strategic categories.

Consider if you are most interested in funding urgent needs or longer-term challenges:

- ▶ Organizations serving urgent needs address helping people right now. Your donation may be used to feed the hungry, help the homeless find shelter, keep agencies open, etc. You will find these organizations designated as **"Supporting Those Most Affected."**
- ▶ Longer term strategies involve more nuanced aide: helping the organizations we care about adapt their business model to navigate a new reality. We have designated these opportunities as **"Facing Financial Challenges."**

Both approaches are vitally important, and many people try to pick something on each side of this equation to balance their giving.

Is it better to give to a fund or a specific organization or both?

- ▶ Organized funds are like investing in mutual funds: you pick an expert whom you trust and let them analyze priorities that you might not be able to see or track. There are funds that address the needs of a specific group – such as the COVID-19 Rapid Response Fund for Oakland Students and Schools, or the UpStart fund helping to mitigate layoffs in small Jewish startups – and broader funds like our Federation COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund.
- ▶ There may be organizations you care deeply about who are supporting those most affected—or who may be at financial risk due to COVID-19. Consider giving more to them than you usually would—or accelerating a gift that you might have sent later this year. Many people pick a fund that speaks to them, and also reach out to organizations that they are already invested in to support their COVID-19 related needs. For example, you might support your local JCC or raise your level of commitment to a museum that will struggle to stay open.

We know you may still have questions; this is a marathon, not a sprint. Reach out and we will help you navigate a funding strategy to bring us through this time stronger, more resilient, and ready to move forward as a community. There are also some additional thoughts about giving during this stormy time on our [website](#).

Ways to Give



Supporting Those Most Affected



Facing Financial Challenges



Fund



Jewish

Causes to Support

[The Federation's COVID-19 Response Fund](#)

The first priority is to meet urgent needs of populations most affected by the emergency. In addition, donations to this fund will help mitigate the acute financial crisis caused by business disruptions to key sectors of our Jewish ecosystem.



Bay Area Jewish Agencies

All of our Jewish agencies need your support at this time. The organizations below have urgent needs as they respond to the crisis.

[Bay Area Jewish Healing Center](#)

Delivering grief and other spiritual counseling services to key sectors of our Jewish ecosystem. Using technology when necessary throughout the crisis.



[JCC East Bay](#) [JCC of San Francisco](#) [JCC Sonoma County](#) [Osher Marin JCC](#) [Oshman Family JCC](#) [The Peninsula JCC](#)

JCCs have all closed their facilities. They have been most significantly impacted by revenue loss directly caused by the shelter-in-place restrictions, with elimination of 80-90% of earned income from membership dues, program fees, and tuitions.



[Jewish Family and Children's Services](#) [Jewish Family & Community Services East Bay](#)

First responders to community members who are especially vulnerable during this pandemic emergency. JFCS also supports the community with a food bank.



[Jewish Preschools](#)

Jewish Preschools in the Bay Area have mostly suspended or refunded tuition and furloughed teachers. Schools will face significant start-up costs to rehire teachers and recruit families, with dramatic increases in scholarship needs. There are nearly 40 Jewish preschools across our region enrolling over 2,500 children.



[Jewish Summer Camps in Northern California](#)

Jewish Summer Camps face existential financial hardship if camp is cancelled this summer. All camps are planning for partial or full summer closures and have made a commitment to refund registration fees. Camps have already reported cancellations and requests for increased scholarships due to family job loss.



[JVS](#)

As unemployment has grown dramatically since the beginning of the crisis, JVS is expanding job search support and job training services for the community. Currently coordinating with industry partners and expanding programming to meet the urgent needs of job seekers.



Bay Area Jewish Agencies *(cont.)*

<p><u>UpStart Jewish Innovator Payroll Relief Fund</u></p>	<p>Supporting the 100+ organizations in their Venture Network who work to make our community more just, vibrant, and inclusive. These cutting-edge Jewish organizations currently face unprecedented challenges as they navigate the new realities of lost revenue and financial uncertainty.</p>	
<p><u>Urban Adamah</u></p>	<p>Delivering fresh produce to seniors in the community, as well as continuing many programs online.</p>	

Local Response

<p><u>Bay Area Food Banks</u></p>	<p>Providing food to those who need it most during this crisis and responding to unique challenges, including getting food to the families of children who normally get their only or main meal at school. As the economic crisis grows, the need for food is growing dramatically.</p> <p><u>Alameda County Community Food Bank</u> <u>Food Bank of Contra Costa & Solano</u> <u>Redwood Empire Food Bank</u> <u>SF-Marin Food Bank</u> <u>Second Harvest of Silicon Valley</u></p>	
<p><u>COVID-19 Rapid Response Fund for Oakland Students and Schools</u></p>	<p>The Oakland Public Education Fund is focused on feeding students and families, supporting quality at-home distance learning opportunities for children, and supporting vulnerable families with rapid cash assistance.</p>	
<p><u>Frontline Foods</u></p>	<p>Sustaining local restaurants by enabling them to prepare meals for front line responders. A partnership with World Central Kitchen—an international nonprofit relief program—has helped this program rapidly scale its reach. Frontline Foods is currently operating in San Francisco, Marin, and Silicon Valley and other cities around the U.S. Gifts can be made to World Central Kitchen with Frontline Foods as the Grant Purpose.</p>	
<p><u>Give2SF COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund</u></p>	<p>Helping protect the health of San Francisco and support the most vulnerable, including individuals, families, and local businesses. Donations will directly support: health facilities and supplies, local businesses and nonprofits, and medically and economically vulnerable neighbors, including individuals facing economic hardship or a housing crisis.</p>	
<p><u>GLIDE</u></p>	<p>Has adapted meal delivery for individuals and families to serve thousands of meals each week. Family and child services also include diapers, hygiene kits, toys, and online learning programs. GLIDE facility remains open, serving nearly 15,000 meals per week while filling the growing need as other programs have had to stop serving.</p>	
<p><u>Larkin Street Youth Services</u></p>	<p>Committed to providing essential services to ensure the health and safety of the young people it serves during the COVID-19 crisis. Taking extra steps to prevent infection spread among at-risk youth by implementing screening and testing protocols, promoting social distancing in its youth shelter housing programs, and sanitizing program facilities.</p>	

Local Response *(cont.)*

<p><u>Oakland COVID-19 Relief Fund</u></p>	<p>Provides immediate grants to nonprofit organizations working on the frontlines while focusing on four priority areas: food, homelessness, community health, and economic security</p>	
<p><u>Samaritan House</u></p>	<p>Will remain open to provide essential services such as meals, housing services, clothing and supplies to families, the elderly, those with disabilities and others in need throughout San Mateo County.</p>	

Global Response

<p><u>American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC)</u></p>	<p>The leading Jewish humanitarian organization, working in 70 countries to lift lives and strengthen communities. As the global Jewish 9-1-1, JDC's expertise and experience are needed now more than ever. They are addressing emerging needs and continuing to serve the tens of thousands of people who depend on them every day.</p>	
<p><u>American Jewish World Service (AJWS)</u></p>	<p>Supporting its partners in 19 countries to address the pandemic, for example, by providing food aid in India to migrant workers without an income. In particular, they are monitoring the Cox's Bazaar camp with approximately 1 million Rohingya refugees who are extremely vulnerable—and calling for immediate action.</p>	
<p><u>IsraAID</u></p>	<p>Has initiated a Global Coronavirus Emergency Response focusing on mental health support for health care workers in China, Italy, and South Korea. They are also supporting urgent migrant and refugee needs in Greece and Venezuela, raising awareness of COVID-19 to reduce the spread.</p>	
<p><u>Partners in Health</u></p>	<p>Working in 10 countries in Africa, the Americas, and Asia to procure and validate COVID-19 tests, train staff to diagnose patients, and collaborate with ministries of health to help facilities isolate COVID-19 patients.</p>	

Have Questions or Suggestions?

If you have additional suggestions or questions on this topic, or would like information on other causes and ways to give, contact your philanthropy advisor or call us at **415.512.6225**.

Federation Philanthropy Partners connects impact and meaning by helping others view the world through the lens of Jewish values. Our 100 year history at the center of Bay Area generosity—supporting both those who give and those who benefit—grants us a unique ability to amplify results and create moments of transformation in the world, our community, and ourselves.