
ServeOhio COVID-19 Community Resilience Grant Program Recipient Descriptions

Number of Grantees: 36
Grant Amount: \$62,387

Round 1

3 R Development, Middletown

3R Development will facilitate a comprehensive drive for food, personal hygiene products, diapers and cleaning/sanitizing supplies to distribute to school children and older adults in Middletown. Additionally, teen volunteers will be writing letters and creating cards for seniors in the local nursing homes to brighten their day.

Collins Career Technical Center, Chesapeake

Located in Chesapeake, Ohio, The Collins Career Technical Center fosters healthy community relations with local and surrounding communities through their "Collins Cares Program." During this time of crisis, the technical center will use the Community Resilience Grant to purchase an initial stock of diapers, baby wipes and basic hygiene products to create a supply that is available to the low-income/at-risk members of their community, including many of the center's students and families. The program will run for the duration of the COVID-19 global health crisis and will continue to seek donations and services to ensure sustainability beyond the initial stocking of supplies.

Healthy Homes Block by Block, Cincinnati

Healthy Homes Block by Block serves the hard-to-reach families in East and Lower Price Hill in one of Cincinnati's most at-risk neighborhoods. The organization has worked together with other nonprofit and faith-based organizations in the area to identify where they can best assist and will use the Community Resilience Grant to purchase food and much-needed supplies to deliver to doorsteps in their neighborhood.

Lena's House Inc., Columbus

Due to senior citizens being the most vulnerable population during the coronavirus crisis, senior living centers are not allowing residents to have visitors or leave the facility. Lena's House Inc. will address the needs of senior citizens at the Hilltop Senior Village in Columbus, Ohio. With the Community Resilience Grant, Lena's House will engage the youth of the community to create care packages for those living at Hilltop.

Madison Christian Ministers Association, Madison

More than 50 percent of school children in Madison, Ohio live below the poverty line, so access to food right now is scarce for those students and their families. Madison Christian Ministers Association (MCMA) will use the Community Resilience Grant to feed the families of children (ages 0-18) in the community who have expressed need to the local school district. MCMA is recruiting 25 volunteers each week to accept, sort, pack and distribute food donations.

North Central Ohio ESC, Seneca County

In order to lessen the burden for at-risk Seneca County families during the COVID-19 crisis, North Central Ohio ESC is planning a toiletry distribution. The organization will collect toilet paper, paper towels, toothpaste, cleaning supplies and other nonperishables to have readily available for families who are currently receiving service and/or mentoring through the Seneca County Family & Children First Council. North Central Ohio ESC has reached out to several business to seek donations to add to those purchased with the Community Resilience Grant.

Salem Lutheran Church, Toledo

During this difficult time, residents of Toledo's North End Vistula neighborhood are unable to stock up on necessary goods. With a great number of service providers in the area shut down, such as the local community center, Salem Lutheran Church will use the Community Resilience Grant to purchase personal hygiene and well-being items for low-income and at-risk neighbors. Salem Lutheran Church also plans to host a drive that brings in additional items and support in hopes to set a strong example of serving and sticking together through difficult times.

Vina Cincinnati, Cincinnati

Vina Cincinnati, a well-known church in their area, will use the Community Resilience Grant to support low-income families during the COVID-19 crisis. Many of these families depend on community food pantries, but due to the high demand of items, the food pantries are unable to help everyone in need. A team of Vina Cincinnati volunteers work with other local churches and community service organizations to manage the storage of the food and coordinate food drop-offs to families.

Hocking Athens Perry Community Action, Hocking, Athens, and Perry Counties

Hocking Athens Perry Community Action (HAPCAP) is part of a Community Action Agency and has been working with the food pantry and other community services to assess the needs of families in their area as a result of COVID-19. Resources are available for food distributions, but not for toiletries. HAPCAP will use the Community Resilience Grant to purchase shampoo, conditioner, soap, deodorant and other toiletries for the families they serve in their Head Start and Early Head Start programs. The HAPCAP staff will assemble boxes that will be delivered to the family's houses by the organization's buses.

Neighborhood Alliance, Lorain

Neighborhood Alliance provides basic needs to individuals across their many programs, including Shelter and Emergency Services, Senior Enrichment Services, Family Support Services and Child Enrichment Services. The organization regularly operates an emergency food pantry, but their inventory does not typically include personal hygiene or cleaning products. With help from the Community Resilience Grant, Neighborhood Alliance will provide necessary items, including infant-care products, to local families and senior citizens.

Ethiopian Tewahedo Social Services, Columbus

Ethiopian Tewahedo Social Services (ETSS) has witnessed the needs of immigrant and refugee families in central Ohio become more extreme due to COVID-19. ETSS will use the Community Resilience Grant to supply food, disinfectants, diapers and other needs for the families they serve and those they can reach out to beyond their currently established clients. ETSS, with help from community partners, will be able to provide comfort and the necessary supplies these populations need during this unprecedented time.

Round 2

Grace Point Community Church, Lewis Center

Located in Lewis Center, Grace Point Community Church will use the Community Resilience Grant to purchase meals for local families who are unable to take advantage of lunches provided by local schools due to a lack of transportation during the day. Volunteers will pack and distribute meals on Monday, Wednesday and Friday for the duration of the COVID-19 crisis.

Ross County Community Action Commission, Chillicothe

Ross County Community Action Commission strives to improve communities by helping people and changing lives. The coronavirus pandemic has left many of Ross County's homeless population unable to access the services they need. The Ross County Community Action Commission will use the Community Resilience Grant to provide and deliver daily meals to local homeless men, women and families. Each meal will include information on safety, details on additional community resources and hygiene kits.

Clark PreK-8 School, Cleveland

One hundred percent of students at Clark PreK-8 School in Cleveland live at the national poverty rate. The physical well-being of these students as well as their social and emotional health while learning from home is a concern now that they don't have daily in-person interaction with their teachers and classmates. With the Community Resilience Grant, Clark will provide families with a collection of items such as a jump rope to encourage physical activity, a small stuffed animal for encouragement, flash cards, books and learning games that can be played as a family or between siblings to increase family interactions.

Famicos Foundation, Cleveland

Due to the "shelter in place" order during the COVID-19 crisis, low-income seniors at Famicos Foundation are unable to leave their homes to go to the store and are now lacking basic needs. With the Community Resilience Grant, Famicos Foundation will offer a delivery service to provide senior residents with food and toiletries.

United Way of Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley, Youngstown

In this time of crisis, United Way of Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley is in regular contact with approximately 40 nonprofit partners to assess the current needs of the community. The organization's priority right now is to get food to those who cannot access food pantries or grocery stores. United Way will use the Community Resilience Grant to order food in bulk and then separate it into boxes to be delivered to local families and individuals suffering during this crisis.

West Park United Church of Christ, Cleveland

West Park United Church of Christ (UCC) recently expanded their food pantry to serve food, hygiene products, paper products and even pet food to many more people. With the recent closures of schools and increasing cancellation of gatherings due to COVID-19, many people are out of work. To help during these challenging times, UCC's food pantry will increase operating hours from three days per month to two days per week. The Community Resilience Grant will help West Park UCC continue to have products to provide to those in need. It will also allow them to do weekly deliveries to some of Cleveland's vulnerable populations, including the elderly and those with underlying health conditions.

Sunshine Communities, *Maumee*

Located in Maumee, Sunshine Communities' mission is to create community among people with disabilities, their families, friends and staff. The present COVID-19 situation has resulted in devastating impacts to the individuals Sunshine Communities supports. They have had to close their supported employment sites causing employees to fall under major financial stress. With the Community Resilience Grant, Sunshine Communities will put together care packages to deliver to any supported living and supported employment individuals, staff or family members in need.

United Way of Van Wert County, *Van Wert*

United Way of Van Wert County is providing "grab & go" bags for all children in Van Wert County. With the Community Resilience Grant, United Way, along with local food pantry and school partners, will be able to purchase additional food to pack in the bags during the duration of the COVID-19 crisis.

Community Food Initiatives, *Athens*

For many years, Community Food Initiatives' partners and networks have collaborated to address food insecurity in the Athens Region. The number of people requesting assistance has steadily increased since the beginning of March with the first cases of COVID-19 in Ohio. Fresh locally sourced food has been even harder for at-risk low-income individuals and families to access. In addition to providing people with healthy food, buying local is important to maintaining the economy during these difficult times for small farmers and food producers. CFI will use the Community Resilience Grant to match Donation Station funds currently allocated for the purchase of locally grown and prepared food from farmers and small businesses in Athens. This food will be donated to various food pantries and organizations in the area.

Hands of Faith Church, *Zanesville*

Hands of Faith Church, located in Zanesville, Ohio, is addressing dinner time for children in the area who depend on schools for their meals. With the Community Resilience Grant, Hands of Faith will provide "grab & go" bags for students to have something to eat in the evenings and for breakfast the following day. The church is currently addressing the needs of over 75 children in their neighborhood.

New Lexington Schools, *New Lexington*

With students being forced to learn from home due to COVID-19, the New Lexington schools want to provide families with puzzles, board games, "at home" science kits, card games and other educational "games" to pass the time productively at home. The schools will use the Community Resilience Grant to purchase various games and pass them out at their biweekly food distributions.

A Loving Heart Youth Services, *Dayton*

A Loving Heart (ALH) Youth Services is partnering with Dominion Ministries International to create the ALH Cares Program. The program's goal is to provide groceries and game and educational activity packs to local residents who are developmentally disabled as well as families with children negatively impacts by COVID-19. With the Community Resilience Grant, ALH will create and deliver these packs to Dayton families in need.

Kettering Backpack Program, *Dayton*

The Kettering Backpack Program supplies children on the free and reduced lunch program in Kettering with shelf stable foods for the weekend. Many of the over 625 students receiving the backpacks are in family situations that can be challenging, especially during this time of crisis. To help these families, the Kettering Backpack Program will use the Community Resilience Grant to provide puzzles, books, craft kits and games to help occupy children and encourage family fun.

St. Vincent DePaul Cincinnati, Cincinnati

Due to COVID-19, many of St. Vincent DePaul's neighbors are in need of financial assistance and are concerned to go out to the grocery store. With the food pantry in their area closed because of health concerns, St. Vincent DePaul is creating temporary food banks at local Cincinnati churches and city buildings and delivering groceries to individuals and families on a weekly basis. They will use the Community Resilience Grant to purchase specific types of food to add to donations from local organizations.

Round 3

The PAST Foundation, Columbus

It has been widely reported across the country as well as throughout Ohio, that there is growing concern about the nation's supply of personal protective equipment (PPE) amid the rapidly expanding pandemic. In addition, traditional disposable PPE, such as face masks and face shields are in short supply for medical and health professionals. The PAST Foundation will use the Community Resilience Grant to purchase materials to make reusable face masks and face shields for nurses and other professionals at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus.

Madison County Public Health, London

During the COVID-19 crisis, diapers and baby wipes have become especially difficult to find and hard to afford with the state of the economy. With the Community Resilience Grant, Madison County Public Health will distribute diapers and wipes to low-income and newly unemployed families in Madison County.

Shadowbox Live, Columbus

The older adult population living in senior housing and care facilities find themselves without direct contact with family and friends due to the current COVID-19 social distancing. The lack of human contact with the ones they love takes an emotional toll on these seniors. Shadowbox live will use the Community Resilience Grant to purchase supplies for their card-writing campaign to lift the spirits of the elderly in nursing homes throughout central Ohio. The cards and writing supplies will be delivered to each writer so the project can be completed at home. The completed cards will then be collected by Shadowbox Live staff and delivered to each facility.

Tallmadge Foursquare Church, Tallmadge

With a majority of their community living below the poverty level, Tallmadge Foursquare Church will use the Community Resilience Grant to purchase food items and build relief packs for neighbors in need. The church is also planning on providing activities that can help families through their isolation.

City of Kirtland, Kirtland

The City of Kirtland has formed the Kirtland C.A.R.E.S. Response Team to help those most directly affected by the coronavirus. The KCRT is tasked with identifying people in need, collecting donations and providing hands-on assistance delivering necessary items. The organization will use the Community Resilience Grant to make sure members of their community do not go without food, basic household items or first aid needs.

Madison Senior Center, Madison

Social wellness is much more difficult for the senior population when social distancing and isolation are suggested to stay well. Using the Community Resilience Grant, staff from the Madison Senior Center, along with other community members, will create, craft and distribute handmade cards and Easter bags to the Madison senior population. Along with the cards, seniors will receive information on how to obtain help with groceries, errands, medical appointments, etc. during this trying time.

Fourteenth Street Community Center, Portsmouth

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Fourteenth Street Community Center is providing needed services for their community. One of their current services, S.M.A.R.T. (Senior Meals Arriving Right in Time), provides hot, fresh meals once a week delivered to seniors' doorsteps by church leaders. As an extension of this program, the community center will use the grant to launch their Senior Hygiene Support Initiative and provide hygiene and disinfectant packs in addition to meals.

Caldwell Exempted Village School District, Caldwell

Caldwell Exempted Village School District (CEVSD) is a small, rural school district with a student population of 803. The district covers more than 157 square miles in and around the Village of Caldwell in the Southern portion of Noble County. Due to the COVID-19 crisis and the resulting school closures, many Caldwell students have lost or significantly reduced access to consistent and nutritious food throughout the week. In addition, the school was recently made aware of the senior and homeless populations in the area that are struggling as well. The Community Resilience Grant will allow the school to make and deliver meals to vulnerable populations in their community.

Kno-Ho-Co Ashland Community Action Commission, Coshocton

During this unprecedented crisis, Kno-Ho-Co-Ashland Community Action Commission will use the Community Resilience Grant to purchase materials to make handmade personal protection masks for organizations in the counties they serve – Knox, Holmes, Coshocton and Ashland. These organizations include long-term care facilities, hospitals, EMS workers, first responders, senior center home delivered meal drives, food pantries and vulnerable citizens who should have protection if they must go to the grocery store, pharmacy or doctor.

Elderly United of Springfield, Springfield

The loneliness of elderly citizens residing in nursing homes has been exacerbated by the restrictions due to COVID-19. Elderly United of Springfield will use the Community Resilience Grant to create care packages with notes and pictures drawn from members of their community, especially children, to give to the facility's residents.

City of Hamilton, Hamilton

The City of Hamilton plans to use the Community Resilience Grant to assist Hamilton's homeless community, who is potentially the most at-risk during the COVID-19 pandemic. The city will identify supplies that are essential for proper personal hygiene and assemble and deliver these items to homeless individuals and families beginning with those living outside and exposed to the elements.