

For Immediate Release
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Community Coalition Emergency Grants Help Housing and Shelter

Local organizations provide additional immediate funding to area nonprofits on the front line of crisis

Grand Haven, Mich. – The community coalition created to respond to the COVID-19 crisis has granted an additional \$115,000 from the Emergency Human Needs Fund to nine area nonprofit organizations that are helping our community in this time of crisis. The majority of this round of emergency funding went to organizations that support housing and shelter.

“Without intervention, the challenges of COVID-19 will become trauma for our most vulnerable neighbors, and lead families down the path into homelessness,” said Drew Peirce, Executive Director of Good Samaritan Ministries. “But, because of this incredible support, we have been able to add to our already proven processes and team the work of significant early intervention. This support has equipped us to intervene with families as the crisis hits, at the moment the path to homelessness begins, and with financial and professional support start developing a new path back towards housing and financial stability.”

Nonprofit agencies in Ottawa County have committed to keeping people fed, housed, and healthy as best as they can. But these organizations face challenges as they balance their missions with the additional workload of managing the threat of COVID-19.

In response to this need, the following funds have been granted:

- \$7,500 to Coopersville Cares
- \$40,000 to Good Samaritan Ministries
- \$5,000 to Holland Rescue Mission
- \$5,000 to Latin American United for Progress (LAUP)
- \$7,500 to Love in Action

- \$7,500 to Love Inc. Hudsonville
- \$10,000 to Resilience
- \$25,000 to The Salvation Army (Grand Haven)
- \$7,500 to The Salvation Army (Holland)

“At The Salvation Army in Grand Haven, we have been able to assist folks who have been furloughed from their jobs but have not received their unemployment yet,” said Major Heather Holman, Corps Officer from The Salvation Army, Grand Haven Corps. “We also have assisted folks who have not received their stimulus checks, and so we thank the Community Foundation of the Holland/Zeeland Area, the Grand Haven Area Community Foundation, and the Greater Ottawa County United Way!”

This latest grant round brings the total granted from the fund to \$851,310. Funding is provided on behalf of the Community Foundation of the Holland/Zeeland Area (CFHZ), the Grand Haven Area Community Foundation (GHACF), and the Greater Ottawa County United Way (GOCUW).

The community coalition has created a website to help with the rising need for volunteers, donations of both goods and funds, and ongoing updates: www.careottawacounty.com. Donations have continued to come in, and the generosity of our community will allow us to further respond to this crisis.

This is a time of great need, and the natural human impulse is to help our neighbors, so join us in helping in any way that you can.

ABOUT THE GHACF

The Grand Haven Area Community Foundation is a public, charitable organization serving the Northwest Ottawa County community since 1971. GHACF is regularly recognized as a top 100 Community Foundation in the nation and is the 8th largest community foundation in the State of Michigan. It encourages philanthropy by individuals, families, corporations, and organizations,

and serves as a steward of their charitable funds and legacies. In addition to awarding grants, the Foundation offers technical support to nonprofits, convenes community leaders on issues of importance, and advocates for the nonprofit sector. For more information visit ghacf.org.

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