COVID-19 Response Fund Grants

Allegany Franciscan Ministries to date (June 30, 2020) has awarded 36 grants totaling $948,010 to support vulnerable people and organizations in the communities we serve. In each region Allegany serves, funds have been awarded both to collaborative or pooled funding process as well as directly to nonprofit organizations. This list does not include the human and social capital we are also providing throughout Florida and our communities.

**Tampa Bay Region - 5 grants totaling $337,010**

**Pinellas Community Foundation**, Clearwater, FL
**Tampa Bay Resiliency Fund**
$225,000
Allegany joined with three other philanthropic partners and one corporate partner to co-create the Tampa Bay Resiliency Fund. The Pinellas Community Foundation serves as the fiscal agent and fund manager. The fund will support organizations in the Tampa Bay area whose ability to serve the community has been severely diminished by the impacts of the coronavirus. Priorities include protection of life, mitigation of additional harm, and strengthening nonprofits related to critical intervention services to the community – these priorities will be considered through a lens of serving people who are most vulnerable by race and socioeconomic status. Other partners include United Way Suncoast, Wells Fargo, and Foundation for a Healthy St. Petersburg; individuals, corporate, and philanthropic entities may contribute; over $1.2 M has been raised to date. Nonprofit organizations apply through The Pinellas Community Foundation website. Fund requests are reviewed by a committee which includes Allegany staff. As of April 30, eight-five applications totaling $3.3 M have been received and 32 grants totaling $525,238.

**Beth-El Farmworkers Ministry**, Wimauma FL
**Hygiene and Emergency Supplies (Trinity Health Supply Chain)**
$10,010
In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, families in Wimauma have even greater needs for basic resources, including services, resources, and housing. Lack of financial resources and transportation kept families from accessing the limited inventory of toiletry items, cleaning supplies, and paper products at stores. Community food pantries and nonprofits have also been unable to access or afford these high-demand items. Trinity Health’s Supply Chain provided access to these resources, allowing Allegany to purchase products to meet critical basic needs to community members. These resources will help food pantries stretch their resources further.
Beth-El Farmworkers Ministry will distribute the supplies to partner organizations in Wimauma, for distribution to community residents.

**Enterprising Latinas, Wimauma, FL**  
**Wimauma Meals for First Responders**  
**$2,000**  
This project will provide an estimated 70-80 hot and cold meals weekly to first responders in Wimauma dealing with the coronavirus pandemic. ELI will contract with micro-businesses who are alumni of its workforce and business development trainings, and graduates of ELI's Food Protection Management training. They will prepare, package and deliver meals. The program will not only help the first responders, but also support the local entrepreneurs, many of whom are low-income head of households.

**Abe Brown Ministries, Tampa, FL**  
**Transitional Living Program and Ready 4Work – Hillsborough Relief**  
**$50,000**  
Abe Brown Ministries operates a Transitional Living Program to provide returning offenders with managed housing, case management, and direct linkages to reentry services. Abe Brown Ministries will provide managed housing and case management to the residents of its Transitional Living Program. Funds will also be used to maintain staff and resources in order to facilitate the health and wellness of clients through the provision of transitional housing, transportation, holistic workforce training, and job placement to citizens returning from incarceration.

**Positive Spin, Tampa, FL**  
**COVID-19 Crisis**  
**$50,000**  
Positive Spin provides unique case management for families that reflects individualism, cultural competence, family strengths and child safety. The funding will assist individuals who have been adversely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, and general operating support for the agency. These funds will support one-time assistance to households to address food insecurity and financial assistance for housing costs impacted by the loss of income due to COVID-19.

**Miami-Dade Region – 6 grants totaling $280,000**

**The Miami Foundation, Miami, FL**  
**The Community Recovery Fund**  
**$160,000**  
Allegany Franciscan Ministries collaborated with The Miami Foundation and other philanthropic, government and business partners to launch The Community Recovery Fund to support Miami-Dade County’s vital network of nonprofit organizations and the residents they serve. The Fund is providing critical help to nonprofits whose operations are severely impacted by the pandemic, supporting their long-term recovery, resilience and financial stability. **To date, the fund has raised more than $3 million.** Organizations may submit a simple request for support through The Miami Foundation website; a committee including Allegany staff will review requests.
United Way of Miami-Dade, Miami, FL
Miami Pandemic Response Fund
$50,000
Allegany Franciscan Ministries, along with partners the Health Foundation of South Florida, The Miami Foundation, Knight Foundation, and Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau, have joined United Way of Miami-Dade to launch this fund with $800,000; by mid-March, nearly $3 million was raised. Coordinated and operated by United Way, the fund provides immediate financial assistance to families and small businesses through a network of nonprofit partnerships. The fund supports one-time assistance to households to address food insecurity and financial assistance for housing costs impacted by the loss of income due to COVID-19. In its first week, the fund received 3,600 requests totaling $4.7 million; the greatest financial needs identified are rental and mortgage assistance, food, mortgage, medications, utilities, and car payments.

Dade County Street Response, Miami, FL
Homeless Disaster Response
$10,000
This grassroots organization was created in 2018 by a team of University of Miami Medical staff and students to conduct emergency outreach and services during natural and man-made disasters. The grant will support outreach, education, needs assessment, and COVID-19 testing for people who are homeless in Miami-Dade. Due to a reported underserving and testing of the local homeless community (with a majority in or near the Overtown neighborhood), this team of volunteers are securing tents, food, testing, toiletries, mobile showers, portalets, and motel/hotel accommodations for the un-sheltered population.

Legal Services of Greater Miami, Miami, FL
Non-Profit/Small Business COVID-19 Legal Response Project
$10,000
The COVID-19 pandemic presents unprecedented challenges and opportunities for non-profit organizations, small businesses, and entrepreneurs. Applications for newly created stimulus programs, continuity of operations, meeting current commitments, and eventually recovery and return to business-as-usual present legal issues requiring an experienced legal response. Legal Services of Greater Miami is coordinating pro-bono volunteer attorneys to provide organizations with immediate help with the COVID-19 assistance programs. Grant funds will support a temporary Legal Intern who will be integral in the processing and handling of the increase in calls for assistance, benefiting approximately 85 local nonprofits and other small businesses.

WeCount!, Homestead, FL
COVID-19 Recovery Collaborative
$35,000
The “COVID-19 Recovery Collaborative” is composed of several membership-based and constituency organizations in Miami-Dade County, including WeCount!, TransSOCIAL, P.S. 305, and Advocacy Partners. Together, this collaborative advocates for and serves some of the most vulnerable communities in Miami-Dade. The grant awarded will benefit three of the partner organizations as well as provide the administrative support for the collaborative. Funds will allow for outreach services, financial stipends and resources to be distributed, and COVID-19 safety literature and trainings to be provided in community.
Struggle for Miami’s Affordable and Sustainable Housing (SMASH), Miami, FL
Housing and COVID-19 Education and Power Building
$15,000
Struggle for Miami’s Affordable and Sustainable Housing (SMASH) continues to provide advocacy and support to Miami-Dade’s low-income, housing burdened renters during this time of COVID-19. The organization has continued to fight for renters’ rights, including advocating for protection against evictions and unlawful lease terminations during this crisis. SMASH provides resources to the community online, including Housing and COVID-19 online Facebook Live chats with free legal services partners, Weekly Community Eviction Protection Webinars, and monthly Housing Updates and Engagement online meetings. In addition, they continue to conduct media events to highlight the impact of COVID-19 on renters’ rights and housing conditions. This grant will support current and ongoing activities related to SMASH’s mission.

Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie Counties - 25 grants totaling $331,000

In this region, Allegany joined together with more than a dozen other funders to establish coordinated Coronavirus (COVID-19) Relief and Recovery application process for each county. The collaborative processes provide assistance to nonprofit organizations across Palm Beach, Martin and St. Lucie Counties whose staff, services, and clients have been impacted. Funding priorities include: Emergency food, shelter and other basic needs; Expansion of service capacity related to increased demand for direct services; Access to health care services for uninsured and under-insured clients; Technology and other resources to allow organizations to continue to provide services; Reimbursement of lost revenue. Through this funder collaborative, nonprofits are able to submit a single, short request for support, all collaborative funders review the requests, and share the response. To date, across the three counties, there have been 526 applications, totaling $30 million, and $4.4 million has been provided to nonprofit organizations. The list that follows are the specific grants Allegany funded through this collaborative process; in addition to the priorities noted above, Allegany primarily funded organizations that have been past grant partners.

Alpha-Omega Alliance, Riviera Beach, FL
$10,000
The Alliance provides high-quality healthcare, prevention, education and medications to uninsured and under-served residents of Palm Beach County. Due to COVID-19, the Alliance has a significant increase in medical appointment calls, ranging from ER medical visit, medication refills, etc. due to individuals being displaced from employment, and losing health coverage. Funds will be used to provide telehealth services, testing, and medications.

Carebag, Inc., Port St. Lucie, FL
$10,000
Carebag provides hygiene supplies to the homeless and families in need. Services were suspended due to not being able to afford protective gear to assist clients. Funds will be used to purchase protective gear and toiletries for homeless and families in need.
Catholic Charities, Diocese of Palm Beach, Palm Beach Gardens, FL
$20,000
In order to improve access to essential mental health services during the COVID-19 pandemic, Catholic Charities Counseling Program is promoting the counseling hotline and follow-up video therapy sessions for those in need who are experiencing stress, anxiety, and fear due to the pandemic. Funds will be utilized to cover telehealth services and to support general operations.

Christians Reaching Out to Society, Lake Worth, FL
$10,000
CROS Ministries serves people who are food insecure in Palm Beach and Martin Counties through community collaborations. CROS has seen a significant increase in first-time clients; people who have never needed to seek their help before. Funds will purchase food staples for families during the crisis.

El Sol Jupiter’s Neighborhood Resource Center, Jupiter, FL
$14,000
El Sol exists to improve the quality of life for residents of Jupiter and surrounding communities by providing services primarily to day laborers, their children and families. Funds will be used for client and agency resources. Clients being served by El Sol often work temporary low wage jobs who do not have access to sick time, vacation time and reemployment services. Many day labor jobs have been suspended, limiting the already low income for these families. Funds will address laborers’ immediate needs and general operations.

Esperanza Community Center, Palm Beach, FL
$9,000
Esperanza Community Center serves Hispanic and African American day laborers in West Palm Beach. Day laborers, those that don’t have a full-time job but seek day labor with various employers, are not working at this time due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Day laborers and their families are especially vulnerable because they already live on limited resources due to the nature of unpredictable income. The biggest concern is food and paying rent. Funds will be used to purchase food and for general operations.

Farmworker Coordinating Council of Palm Beach County, Lake Worth, FL
$15,000
FCC promotes self-sufficiency and improves the quality of life of migrant/seasonal farmworkers and other people in need through education, advocacy, and access to services. The crisis has brought an increase in need for basic need services including emergency rent and utility assistance, food, hygiene products, baby supplies, etc. Funds will be used to help clients with these emergency needs.

Feed the Hungry Pantry of Palm Beach County, Palm Beach Gardens, FL
$10,000
The Pantry provides food to families in need in Palm Beach County. Free food donations decreased more than 75% in one week in March. By late April, the pantry was serving 10,000 families a week – an enormous increase form the 3,000 a month served in “normal” times. Funds will purchase food items to assist families in need.
Florida Community Health Centers, West Palm Beach, FL
$20,000
FCHC provides accessible, cost effective, high quality, comprehensive, primary and preventative health care to all persons regardless of their socioeconomic circumstances. FCHC is supporting the local Health Department in COVID-19 testing, and performing more than 300 COVID-19 screens per week on the Treasure Coast by telephone, telemedicine, and in person. FCHC needs to purchase Personal Protective Equipment in large quantities. Funding will be used to facilitate COVID-19 screening, patient evaluation and specimen collection.

Fort Pierce Police Department, Fort Pierce, FL
$25,000
The Fort Pierce Police Department needs a Public Information Officer (PIO) and a legal adviser during this difficult time, positions for which there is no available funding. The current pandemic provides uncharted community engagement demands which requires timely information to residents and solid legal advice to assist in navigating appropriately during the emergency and beyond.

Glades Initiative, Belle Glade, FL
$15,000
Glades Initiative aims to improve the coordination and effectiveness of the health and human service delivery system in the Glades area of Palm Beach County. With their long history in the Glades, this organization is a trusted source of information and services in a historically marginalized community. Funds are being used for food items and the distribution.

Grace Way Village, Fort Pierce, FL
$10,000
Grace Way Village serves St. Lucie County residents who struggle with poverty, food scarcity, homelessness, and other needs. A decrease in resources resulting from the pandemic will greatly affect GraceWay’s ability to maintain programs to assist those desperately in need. Funds will be utilized for food and general operations.

Hands Together for Haitians, North Palm Beach, FL
$12,000
Hands Together assists the Haitian immigrant population with the transition from living in their native country to living in the United States. Programs and services include education, health care, language and cultural barriers, access to social resources, counseling and guidance, and meeting basic daily needs such as food requirements. Funds will be used to assist clients with emergency utility, rent, and transportation needs due to COVID-19.

Jesus House of Hope, Stuart, FL
$40,000
House of Hope is considered a “super pantry”, providing immediate resources as well as case management services to individuals and families in Martin County. Funds will be used for general operating support to sustain current full-time employees to meet the increased demands for food and basic needs as a result of COVID-19.
Lake Worth West Resident Planning Group, Lake Worth, FL
$3,500
The Lake Worth West Resident Planning Group (LWW) provides educational, recreational, wellness, and cultural services for Latino families. In addition, LWW’s Community Center assists residents with health and human service needs. Funds will be utilized for technology needs for staff to work remotely to continue to provide services to residents.

Mustard Seed Ministries of Fort Pierce, Fort Pierce, FL
$15,000
Mustard Seed assists those in crisis to alleviate their immediate needs and assist in creating a sustainable plan for their future. Mustard Seed adapted their food pantry to a curbside pickup, and found other ways to continue meeting the expanding needs of people in their community. Funds will be used to assist families with rent and utility payments, as well as gas for front line workers who still are working during COVID-19. In the first week of April alone, 230 requests for rent/mortgage assistance were received – with the average rent $1,500 – a demonstrated need for $345,000.

My Clinic, Jupiter, FL
$10,000
MyClinic is a free clinic that relies on volunteer practitioners to provide Primary and Specialty Medical Care, Behavioral Health, Urgent Dental and Chronic Disease Management to vulnerable populations. MyClinic has temporarily transitioned to "virtual" health visits due to lack of protective resources and availability of volunteer medical providers. Many of the traditional volunteer medical providers at free clinics are retired and less experienced with the use of technology and telemedicine. Funds will support health services and medications for clients, and technology for remote staff.

Roundtable of St. Lucie County, Inc., Port St. Lucie, FL
$5,000
The Roundtable of St. Lucie County is a group of St. Lucie County leaders who work together to accomplish system change that results in improved outcomes for youth throughout St. Lucie County. Funds will be used to support St. Lucie County Public Schools (SLPS) Students ages 13-18 involved in Child Welfare, the Department of Juvenile Justice and Ignite Youth Alliance participating in the SLPS "New Day Program" to prevent "COVID/Summer Slide" and academic failure.

Sarah’s Kitchen of the Treasure Coast, Port St. Lucie, FL
$10,000
Sarah’s is the largest soup kitchen organization in St. Lucie County. The emergency funds will be used to purchase the extra necessary food and supplies to feed an increasing number of guests. Sarah’s Kitchen expects the numbers of people they serve to grow by 50%, an additional 670 meals each week.
St. Ann Church, West Palm Beach, FL
$10,000
St. Ann Place is the outreach center for St. Ann Catholic Church providing services to chronically homeless men and women in Palm Beach County. Funding will be used to provide hot meals to over 200 people daily.

St. Mark Educational Center, Fort Pierce, FL
$5,000
St. Mark Educational Center (St Mark Missionary Baptist Church) provides basic needs such as food, health products, and clothing. Organization is expecting to lose revenue due to canceled fundraisers resulting in the inability to pay their expenses or obtain supplies for the people they serve. Funds will support general operations, and food distribution and necessities for families in need.

The Children’s Healing Institute, West Palm Beach, FL
$8,000
The Children’s Healing Institute provides child abuse prevention and family crisis management for at-risk families. Allegany currently funds a portion of their TEACUP Preemie program. As a result of COVID-19, The Children’s Healing Institute annual fundraiser was canceled resulting in a funding gap for this critical program. Funds will be used to support the funding gap to keep the program operating.

United Against Poverty, Inc. St. Lucie County, Fort Pierce, FL
$20,000
United Against Poverty (UP) assists families desperately in need of food and access to benefits. UP Crisis Stabilization Program provides crisis care and case management for those in emergency situations. With the COVID-19 outbreak, UP is expanding to meet the increased demand for their help. Funds will be used for general operations and to provide food vouchers to families in need.

Vita Nova, West Palm Beach
$13,000
Vita Nova provides youth transitioning from the foster care system to adulthood a stable, nurturing environment that includes housing, counseling, and education. As a result of COVID-19, Vita Nova cancelled onsite programming to avoid exposure by limiting direct contact, and is providing additional supports for youth that are unable to work. Funds will be used to support food costs, over the counter medication, and transportation for youth who are front line workers.

Volunteers in Medicine, Stuart, FL
$11,500
To protect patients, volunteers, and staff, Volunteers in Medicine (VIM) Clinic furloughed all volunteers, had administrative staff work from home, and rescheduled all routine wellness and non-urgent appointments. Working with reduced medical staff, patients with serious chronic acute issues are still being seen by their providers on a case by case basis. Telehealth technology allows VIM Clinic providers to conduct exams and provide consultations remotely. Funds will be used for digital medical equipment, technology equipment for staff, and prescription refills for patients.