



## ***UWGUC COVID19 Emergency Fund***

***for Union County, South Plainfield And North Plainfield Residents***

### ***Fact Sheet***

- Poverty in Union County, North and South Plainfield:

57,900 people in Union County including 11,000 children, 865 people in South Plainfield and 1,728 people in North Plainfield live below the federal poverty line (\$25,750 for a family of four) and the livable wage in a household with two adults working and two children is \$34,216.
- Target population: - individuals disproportionately affected by coronavirus primarily in underserved and economically disadvantaged communities who:
  - ✓ are in a financial crisis due to loss of employment or reduced work hours
  - ✓ did not have benefits or resources to weather the crisis
  - ✓ incurred other debt related to COVID19 (i.e. childcare expenses because schools are closed)
  - ✓ are low-income, hourly wage earners, individuals without employer benefits such as paid time off
- Criteria:
  - ✓ Union County, South Plainfield, and North Plainfield residents
  - ✓ Employed prior to COVID19 and lost job or had reduced work hours due to COVID-19
  - ✓ Must be able to provide proof that financial crisis was due to COVID19 (where documentation such as paystubs are not available, access to an employer must be made available for a verbal confirmation)
  - ✓ Must be able to proof that other debt was incurred because of COVID19
  - ✓ must be able to provide proof of residency
- Support offered:
  - ✓ Financial assistance with arrears in:
    - Rent/mortgage
    - Utilities – light, gas, water
    - car payment
    - insurance payment – home/car/medical
    - other financial emergencies considered on a case by case basis
    - childcare expenses as a result of COVID19

- ✓ Financial assistance with Food
- Timeframe:
  - ✓ Beginning April 2020 through exhaustion of funds
- Oversight and Management of funds:
  - ✓ An Advisory Committee has been established that includes representatives of organizations that provide emergency resources to their constituents. The Advisory Committee will be responsible for:
    - Developing applications and documentation requirements
    - Creating reporting mechanisms
    - Reviewing and approving expense reports
    - Assisting with community outreach
  - ✓ United Way of Greater Union County (UWGUC) is the fund administrator with an existing infrastructure that allows for immediate processing of requests. UWGUC is responsible for:
    - Fund raising
    - Development of marketing and outreach materials
    - Distribution of funds to local nonprofits in Plainfield, Linden, Rahway and Elizabeth responsible for meeting the needs of their communities
    - Directly working with clients from all other communities in Union County, but focused on Hillside, Union Township, Roselle, Roselle Park, Garwood and Kenilworth in Union County and South and North Plainfield
    - Fiscal management – processing payments, managing budget
    - Program and Fiscal Reporting to the Advisory Committee and funders