

2020 CareFirst COVID-19 Response and Relief

Frequently Asked Questions

CareFirst is closely monitoring the coronavirus situation and working in close partnership with state and local public health authorities. To that end, CareFirst has created a comprehensive web resource for members, businesses, healthcare providers and other community partners. To learn about the myriad of ways in which CareFirst is supporting the community, please visit <https://individual.carefirst.com/individuals-families/about-us/coronavirus-resource-center.page>

Eligibility:

1. What geographic areas are eligible for funding?

*Our geographic focus is the CareFirst region of Maryland, Washington, DC, Northern Virginia, and Charleston, West Virginia. In Northern Virginia, our funding can **only** apply to regions that fall north and east of Route 123. This includes portions of Fairfax, Alexandria, and Arlington.*

2. What type of organizations are eligible for funding?

Only selected organizations will be invited to apply. Eligible applicants include qualified 501(c)3 non-profit organizations or public (governmental) health entities in Maryland, Washington, DC, Northern Virginia (located north and east of route 123, including portions of Fairfax, Alexandria, and Arlington Counties), and Charleston, West Virginia.

Special consideration will be given to organizations that are led by youth, women, veteran, or Black, indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) intentionally serving historically under-served and under-resourced communities. Applicants must also serve populations disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 (e.g., seniors, individuals with greater health risks, persons experiencing homelessness, populations with limited English language proficiency, structurally disinvested communities, and/or other special populations).

Grant Request:

1. Where do I find the grant application?

*The link to the live application will be emailed **only** to organizations that are invited to apply for funding.*

2. Is there a preferred web browser that I should use to complete the grant application?

Invited applicants must use Internet Explorer to access and complete the application.

3. I am interested in requesting General Operating support. Will CareFirst support General Operating requests?
CareFirst is providing general operating support for \$25,000. Given the devastating nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, we recognize the need to be nimble in how we support our communities.
4. I am interested in addressing both social needs and economic needs. Can I apply for funding for both areas?
We acknowledge that the need is great for COVID-19; however, we are asking that invited organizations submit only one application during this round of funding.
5. How will grant performance be measured?
Funded grantees will report on required metrics as well as metrics identified in the required logic model. See Guidelines for more information.
6. Is there a minimum "number served"?
We do not have a requirement on the minimum number of individuals served.
7. Does CareFirst have any priorities for this round of COVID-19 funding?
In this second round of funding, CareFirst will support nonprofits providing relief to communities' social and economic needs that have occurred as a result of COVID-19.

CareFirst's investments in social needs may include, but are not limited to, initiatives that:

- *Minimize food insecurity, especially among school-aged children, their families, and seniors*
- *Ensure individuals with greater health risks can quarantine in place by providing pharmacy and medication assistance, transportation, and meals, including medically tailored meals*
- *Provide assistance and counseling to individuals in industries impacted by limited and lost wages (i.e. housing counseling, eviction prevention)*
- *Address mental health issues in special populations and communities that are disproportionately impacted*

CareFirst's investments in economic needs may include, but are not limited to, initiatives that:

- *Promote workforce development and stabilize employment by providing job training and creating a career pipeline*
- *Engage in authentic community engagement around COVID-19 that address structural racism and public mistrust of health institutions*
- *Address digital equity for underserved communities by providing internet connectivity, device access, and/or technology training for children and families*
- *Lessen the burden of loss of revenue due to cancelled events among direct service organizations*
- *Create opportunities for emergency staffing recognizing the decrease in available staff and volunteers for needed services*



8. If my organization has a program already in place but is looking to expand the program or adjust services provided due to COVID-19, would I be able to receive funding from CareFirst?
CareFirst is interested in funding existing efforts as well funding to support adjustments or enhancements to meet the demands of your organization responding to the need of COVID-19.

9. In addition to the completed application, what other elements are required with my proposal?

Eligible applicants must submit the following documents:

- *W-9 Form*
- *501c3 Determination Letter*
- *Recent Financial Audit*
- *Simple Logic Model*
- *Budget with narrative*
- *Board of Directors Roster*

Budget/Funding:

1. Are there any restrictions on funding staff time on the grant?

There are no restrictions on staff time.

2. What funding amount should we request?

Invited applicants may request general operating support for up to \$25,000 and direct services support for up to \$50,000. Organizations providing transformational / innovative interventions or novel programming may request up to \$75,000.

3. I have additional question about the grant process. Who can I contact?

Please send questions about the grant process to community@carefirst.com. Be sure to include your name and contact information in the message.

