



Town of Palm Beach United Way
44 Coconut Row, M201
Palm Beach, FL 33480
561-655-1919

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Town of Palm Beach United Way COVID-19 Emergency Fund reaches \$1 million; new matching gift pledged by Bob and Signa Hermann

For Immediate Release – April 27, 2020

Contact: Aleese Kopf, 785-840-4973 or aleesekopf@palmbeachunitedway.org

The Town of Palm Beach United Way has raised more than \$1.1 million for its COVID-19 Emergency Fund. In addition to the funds already raised, donors **Bob and Signa Hermann** have pledged a \$25,000 dollar-for-dollar matching gift to help continue fundraising efforts.

“So many people are truly struggling right now and the nonprofits of our community are providing the lifelines that are keeping our neighbors from falling into despair,” said Mr. and Mrs. Hermann. “Although significant funds have been raised already, we know that more will be needed in the months ahead as the effects of this disease continue to impact our community.”

The Town of Palm Beach United Way has already matched previous gifts from **Christina Dennis, Julie and Mike Connors, the J. Ira and Nicki Harris Family Foundation, Michele and Howard Kessler, Danielle Moore, John and Jana Scarpa, Sally and Bill Soter, the A. Alfred Taubman Foundation, Bill and Norma Tiefel and Susan and Bob Wright.**

“Our generous donors have helped provide relief and hope to thousands of Palm Beach County residents struggling to make ends meet,” said **Mary Freitas**, Chairman of the Board of Trustees. “It’s encouraging to know that the Palm Beach community is here to step up in times of such tremendous need and uncertainty.”

The COVID-19 Emergency Fund is being distributed to nonprofit agencies throughout Palm Beach County that are providing vital social services such as food, childcare, mental health counseling, diapers, baby formula, protective masks and gloves and financial assistance. Since the fund began, the United Way has received funding requests totaling nearly \$600,000.

Grants have already been awarded to the following organizations: Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County, Caridad Center, Center for Child Counseling, Clinics Can Help, CROS Ministries, Families First of Palm Beach County, Feed the Hungry Pantry of Palm Beach County, Feeding South Florida, Palm Beach County Food Bank, Palm Beach Habilitation Center, The Cotton Bottom Diaper Bank, The Glades Initiative, The Lord’s Place and YMCA of the Palm Beaches.

“With the help of Town of Palm Beach United Way funding we’ve been able to provide gloves, masks and other medical supplies to healthcare agencies and residents all over the county,” said Owen O’Neill, CEO of Clinics Can Help. “We’ve also used grant dollars to purchase oxygen concentrators to assist COVID-19 patients discharged from the hospital and recovering at home. We cannot thank the Palm Beach community enough for their tremendous support during this difficult time.”

To donate to the Coronavirus Emergency Fund visit www.palmbeachunitedway.org/coronavirus-emergency-fund or call 561-655-1919. Checks can be made payable to Town of Palm Beach United Way with “COVID-19 Fund” in the memo and mailed to 44 Coconut Row, Suite M201, Palm Beach, FL 33480.

Donations are tax deductible and 100% will go directly to local organizations delivering services to disadvantaged and under-resourced communities most impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak.

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ONE COMMUNITY. ONE GOAL.