



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 ESTABLISHES CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY FUND WITH HELP OF TWO MATCHING GRANTS

For Immediate Release – March 16, 2020

Contact: Aleese Kopf, 561-655-1919 or aleesekopf@palmbeachunitedway.org

In response to increasing cases of the novel Coronavirus in Palm Beach County and its economic effect on our most vulnerable neighbors, the Town of Palm Beach United Way has created a Coronavirus Emergency Fund to assist residents with short-term needs such as food and health care, and long-term needs resulting from unexpected layoffs and loss of income. Longtime supporters **Christina Dennis** and **Danielle Moore** have each offered \$50,000 dollar for dollar matching gifts for a combined \$100,000 to help kick start the fund.

“Unfortunately, the Coronavirus is not expected to go away any time soon and therefore we need to be prepared to help our most vulnerable neighbors who will be hit hardest by this outbreak,” said Dennis, who is also co-chair of the United Way’s Allocation Committee. “I hope we will come together to support our own community like we did for the Bahamas during Hurricane Dorian.”

“Thousands of Palm Beach County residents will be affected by this outbreak,” said Moore, Town Council President and Vice Chairman of the United Way Board of Trustees. “We anticipate needs for health care, employment, income assistance, food, housing, child care and other services. I know the Palm Beach community will do its part to help prepare for this public health emergency.”

There are at least 155 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Florida and at least eight cases in Palm Beach County. There are more than 4,000 cases in the United States and more cases are likely, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The agency expects that widespread transmission of the virus will occur in the coming months.

At-risk populations such as seniors and health care workers, and low-income residents living in disadvantaged communities will be impacted the most. Increasing numbers of individuals and families will need help dealing with health challenges, managing caregiving duties, recovering lost income, overcoming mental health issues and more. The Coronavirus Emergency Fund will provide funding to local nonprofits to help deliver food, health care, financial assistance, supplies and other services to our neighbors most in need.

The Town of Palm Beach United Way is working closely with nonprofit partner agencies to identify any program challenges or service disruptions that may result from this public health emergency.

“We remain focused on providing continued service to our community,” said Board Chairman **Mary Freitas**. “As we navigate this time of uncertainty, supporters can be assured that the Town of Palm Beach United Way will continue to fight for the health, safety and stability of all Palm Beach County residents.”

To donate to the Coronavirus Emergency Fund visit www.palmbeachunitedway.org/coronavirus-emergency-fund. Checks will also be accepted. Please make checks payable to Town of Palm Beach United Way with Coronavirus Fund in the memo and mail 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. For more information call 561-655-1919.

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ONE COMMUNITY. ONE GOAL.

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