1. WHY WAS THE CONNECTICUT UNITED WAYS COVID-19 RESPONSE FUND CREATED?

We know the needs of ALICE® (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) households are great and mounting during this time. This population had been hard hit by the pandemic, as many work in the restaurant, entertainment, retail, and travel industries. Many who provide childcare or elder care have had their hours drastically reduced or are now at home, without pay.

We also know that our state and federal governments are working hard to identify and put in place solutions on a broad scale. Connecticut United Ways stand ready with our other philanthropic partners to assist where gaps exist and contribute our expertise and resources where we can have the most impact.

2. WHO WILL THE FUND BENEFIT?

Donations will go directly to households in need. The Fund will prioritize and qualify those who will be eligible for assistance. Eligibility requirements include the following as a result of COVID-19: Loss of job/wages, loss of childcare, and/or homebound due to Coronavirus.

3. WHO WILL THE MONEY BE DISBURSED TO?

Money from the fund will be disbursed to individuals and families throughout the state. Connecticut United Ways will distribute monies from the fund based on the percentage of ALICE individuals in the service area of each participating United Way.

4. HOW WILL INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES BE IDENTIFIED?

Connecticut United Ways are currently working with local nonprofits and municipalities to identify eligible recipients. Eligibility requirements include the following as a result of COVID-19: Loss of job/wages, loss of childcare, and/or homebound due to Coronavirus. Once identified by approved agencies, qualified participants’ information will be sent to United Way. Information required includes each participant’s name, email, and phone number.

All questions related to eligibility and participation should be directed to Kaitlin Binnington of Middlesex United Way at kaitlin_binnington1@baylor.edu or 860-990-5444. The hours of operation of United Way is 9am-5pm, EST Monday through Friday.

5. HOW WILL PARTICIPANTS INFORMATION REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL?

United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut and United Way of Western Connecticut are administering this fund and agree to keep each participant’s name, email, and phone number
confidential and disclose same only to EML and the Pay Provider in order to carry out the terms of this program. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut and United Way of Western Connecticut may disclose such information if required by a court, government agency, or other regulatory body. After expiration, any funds not spent by participants will be returned to the Connecticut United Ways COVID-19 Response Fund.

5. IF AN INDIVIDUAL IS ELIGIBLE, HOW MUCH MONEY WILL THEY RECEIVE?

The amount each participant receives will be determined as donations come in, as well as by identifying the number of recipients.

6. HOW WILL RECIPIENTS RECEIVE THE FUNDS?

We will be distributing digital funds through reward cards to participant phones. The first payment will be $200. There may be more payments per household depending on how much is raised in the Fund.

7. WHAT CAN INDIVIDUALS USE THE MONEY FOR?

Money will be provided to individuals who most need it to pay for food, utilities, gas, and other necessities, with the goal to immediately address their urgent household basic needs.

8. ARE THERE OTHER WAYS FOR INDIVIDUALS TO RECEIVE HELP? (unsure of correct answer)

Yes, United Ways around the state have set-up their own local funds to support people in the communities they serve in the short- and long-term as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Please call 2-1-1 to find out more information about these funds and what other resources might be available.

9. HOW DO INDIVIDUALS MAKE A DONATION?

To donate online to the Connecticut United Ways COVID-19 Response Fund, go to www.CTUWCovid19ResponseFund.org. Donors will have the option to pay a 3.09% credit card processing fee so that 100% of their donation can go directly to those in need. Connecticut United Ways will not charge any administrative fees on donations to the Fund.

10. WHAT OTHER WAYS CAN AN INDIVIDUAL GIVE?

Donors can text CTCOVID19 to 71777 to give. Message & data rates may apply.

11. I WANT TO GET MORE INVOLVED. WHAT SHOULD I DO?

Great! There are a few options: Make a corporate pledge as an early partner, set-up a micro-campaign within your company so employees have a way to support the Fund, help mobilize volunteers for targeted needs throughout the community, and stay informed every step of the way, as we meet the needs of this crisis together.

12. I REPRESENT ANOTHER NON-PROFIT. CAN WE APPLY FOR FUNDING?

All monies from the Connecticut United Ways COVID-19 fund will be used to support individuals. Please check with your local United Way and/or Community Foundation for potential funding opportunities for nonprofits.