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Contact: Jordan Killebrew, Director of Communications
jkillebrew@sbfoundation.org; 805-963-1873

COVID-19 Joint Response Effort for Santa Barbara County Expanded Over \$1 Million in Support Pledged to Relief Efforts

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY, CA – The Santa Barbara Foundation, United Way of Santa Barbara County, and the Hutton Parker Foundation are leading a countywide funders’ collaborative with members of the Foundation Roundtable. This COVID-19 Joint Response Effort for Santa Barbara County announced today that they will provide over \$1 million in assistance to individuals and families as well as organizations actively assisting members of the community affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

“The full extent of the impact this pandemic will have on our community remains to be seen; however, it is clear already that the needs of our community members and the organizations serving them will be substantial,” said Steve Ortiz, President & CEO, United Way of Santa Barbara County. “We are honored and grateful to work with such generous community members and with such dedicated organizations through this COVID-19 Joint Response Effort to quickly and efficiently meet the needs of our community.”

This COVID-19 Joint Response Effort will align and coordinate efforts, collect and share information, and distribute financial resources on a rolling basis for our most vulnerable populations. Together, they will mobilize funds to rapidly meet the needs of our community as they arise. Nonprofits can submit applications through the collaborative [COVID-19 Nonprofit Grant Intake](#) packet (preferred method) and/or to individual funders through their application processes.

COVID-19 Response Grants funding priorities include:

1. Individual financial need to help struggling community members secure and maintain basic needs, cover unexpected child care and education expenses, and recover from loss of wages due to business closures and social distancing measures.
2. Meeting increased service demand for organizations serving Santa Barbara County’s most vulnerable populations impacted by widespread shutdown of schools and child care facilities, and social distancing measures impacting places of employment.
3. Operational capacity and business continuity to provide unrestricted funding for organizations to carry out their missions and adjust business models to meet the needs of their staff and clients.



“It’s during times like these that philanthropy is called upon to lead in new and different ways,” said Jackie Carrera, Interim CEO of the Santa Barbara Foundation. “By coming together as one, we can better serve our communities ensuring rapid and effective assistance for the most vulnerable and meet the varied COVID-19 response needs as they arise.”

“With leadership from the Santa Barbara Foundation and the United Way of Santa Barbara County, the local foundation community has joined forces and combined resources to respond to many of the nonprofit sector’s critical and immediate needs. It is imperative, at this time, for funders to be working in collaborative nature to not only address immediate needs, but to also plan for the future,” said Tom Parker, President of the Hutton Parker Foundation.

The public is encouraged to generously support the COVID-19 Joint Response Effort for Santa Barbara County. Donations can be made at the Santa Barbara Foundation at SBFoundation.org/covid-19responseeffort or at the United Way at unitedwaysb.org/covid19.

For more resources about COVID-19 in Santa Barbara County, please go to publichealthsb.org. For resources for individuals please go to unitedwaysb.org/covid19. For resources for nonprofits please go to SBFoundation.org/covid-19-sbc-np-resources.

Foundation Roundtable members as of March 19, 2020 who have joined the COVID-19 Joint Response Effort

The Ann Jackson Family Foundation
Audacious Foundation
Fund for Santa Barbara
The Henry E. & Lola Monroe Foundation
Hutton Parker Foundation
James S. Bower Foundation
Jane and Paul Orfalea
The Natalie Orfalea Foundation

Mosher Foundation
The Muzzy Family
Santa Barbara Foundation
The Towbes Foundation
United Way of Santa Barbara County
Wood-Claeyssens Foundation



About Hutton Parker Foundation

Hutton Parker Foundation strives to provide organizational sustainability to community-based nonprofit organizations throughout Santa Barbara County and to assist agencies in achieving their highest performance capacity and delivery of services resulting in stronger, more efficient communities for all. To learn more, please visit: huttonfoundation.org.

About Santa Barbara Foundation

The Santa Barbara Foundation, the largest community foundation in the region and the county's go-to resource for investment and capacity-building, strives to mobilize and elevate all residents to thrive. Nearly every Santa Barbara County nonprofit organization and essential community project has been supported by the Foundation during its 91-year history.

The Foundation is working to improve areas that affect quality of life in Santa Barbara County including childcare, workforce development, and workforce housing. The Foundation connects those who give with those in need - and all who dream of stronger communities. To learn more, please visit SBFoundation.org.

About United Way of Santa Barbara County

United Way of Santa Barbara County (UWSBC) has the unique and positive vision that "in our community, everyone has a hopeful future." Since 1923, UWSBC has served Santa Barbara County community through funding, volunteer development, and by utilizing its own unique initiatives that involve dozens of local nonprofit and public sector agencies. UWSBC's local community driven Power of Partnership™ priorities help children, families and seniors with a focus on Education, Income and Health. To learn more, please visit unitedwaysb.org.

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