



## San Joaquin Valley Health Fund COVID-19 Response Cluster Donation Options

**Please donate generously. You may direct your contribution in the following ways:**

- **Support for Farmworkers and Immigrants.** Not all farmworkers and immigrants will be entitled to paid sick leave or unemployment insurance under current federal and state regulations, nor will all of them be eligible for affordable or free health care. They and their families may need economic help if required to self-quarantine and/or to pay medical costs if hospitalization is required. Work, when available, may be more unpredictable given that businesses are closing, cutting back, and there are varied working conditions at job sites that make prevention and isolation challenging. Employer/nonprofit partnerships to enhance workplace social distancing and virus prevention/protection would also greatly benefit farmworkers and other immigrant workers. Moreover, the rights that workers are entitled to are not easily understood by many low-wage, immigrant and non-English speaking workers (e.g. understanding that State Disability Insurance and Workers Compensation are available for workers without legal immigration status.) Vulnerable workers with questions need help, including multi-lingual hotlines accessible in evening hours and counseling/advice.
- **Enhanced Health Education/Health System Navigation Resources.** Current Centers for Disease Control and Prevention materials on COVID-19 are a crucial start to decreasing viral transmission, but immigrant families, farmworkers and other vulnerable groups need easy access to advice and counseling—both to minimize viral transmission in the workplace and at home, and to navigate a health care system not ideally set up to help them if they fall ill. Workplace interventions—talk sessions during breaks or during van rides to the fields—are examples of a valuable way to decrease viral transmission through education and discussion. Additionally, support is needed for ethnic media messaging/talk shows about prevention, resources and support to help stay uninfected and how to get help if needed.
- **Support for Vulnerable Children and Families.** Providing childcare, meals and community resources for families whose lives are disrupted by the COVID-19 outbreak is essential. This could include rent or food assistance, education and children’s enrichment. Family counseling can help a lot in supporting vulnerable families as they negotiate the changes in their day-to-day lives. An important intervention not easily funded through public sector channels is stress reduction—counseling to help families in confronting multiple intersecting challenges: children at home from school, a family member who is ill, shortfalls in family income.
- **Support for Homeless and Those in Over-Crowded Housing.** Support for services through area nonprofits to ensure emergency shelter, hygiene stations and other solutions to meet the needs of the homeless and those living in over-crowded housing (e.g., farmworker barracks) are needed so that those infected can self-quarantine without affecting others.

- **Nonprofit Flexible Support.** Nonprofits, particularly smaller San Joaquin Valley nonprofits, need flexible resources to work effectively with vulnerable communities impacted by COVID-19. Moreover, flexible funding is critical to provide support beyond the areas identified here. For example, there will inevitably be unanticipated problems stemming from bureaucracies' inability to respond rapidly enough to emerging needs, or due to policies and regulations that prohibit service or make service too difficult to access for the most vulnerable community members.
- **Support focused on other particular vulnerable populations (e.g., LGBTQ+, limited-English speaking populations) or geographies (specified San Joaquin Valley county/counties).** Given the language and cultural diversity of the region, special efforts are needed to make health education, family counseling and health system navigator assistance available to language minorities—e.g. Mixtec, Zapotec, Hmong, Punjabi speakers. H-2A workers may need special assistance (especially since they may be at high-risk from living in communal housing.) American Indian communities, particularly those living on rancherias or other tribal areas, and LGBTQ+ residents may face unique problems.