



204 S. Oak. St., Ukiah, CA 95482

April 27, 2020

Carmel Angelo  
Chief Executive Officer  
EOC Commander  
The County of Mendocino

Dear Ms. Angelo,

The Community Foundation of Mendocino County has been closely following the impact of COVID-19 in Mendocino County, and has established the COVID-19 Relief Fund to provide basic needs to individuals, families, and organizations adversely impacted by the pandemic. We are writing to you today to request the County of Mendocino's fiscal support for these efforts.

Based on the current economic data about our county, it is possible that at least 55% of Mendocino County residents are not likely to have the resources to weather the financial impacts of the pandemic. This includes both those below poverty already (about 19%) and those who are Asset Limited, Income Constrained, and Employed (ALICE) households with income above the Federal Poverty Level but below the basic cost of living (about 35%). Mendocino County is also home to a large tribal population (approximately 6%) and Hispanic/Latino population (approximately 25%). Historical inequities and language barriers present additional challenges to receiving timely and accessible aid as well.

To date we have granted \$170,000 from the COVID-19 Relief Fund. \$100,000 of this has been to provide immediate financial assistance for individuals and families without other resources. The remaining \$70,000 was granted to senior centers and food banks in all seven regions of the county to ensure hunger relief to the food insecure. We currently estimate this to include seniors; low-income families and youth; low-access residents; individuals with underlying physical, emotional, or intellectual conditions; disabled; homeless or housing insecure; Native Americans and communities of color; veterans; undocumented migrants; and service workers.

Our nonprofit partners have ramped up many of their services to ensure the food banks are open, the Meals on Wheels programs continue, and that senior centers can serve this critical population. Our food relief partners throughout our county are:

- Anderson Valley Food Pantry
- Anderson Valley Senior Center
- Caring Kitchen (NCO)

- Coastal Seniors
- Mendo Lake Food Hub (NCO)
- Ford Street Community Food Bank
- Hospitality Center
- Indian Senior Center
- Laytonville Food Pantry
- Laytonville Healthy Start
- Manchester / Point Arena Rancheria (Coastal Seniors)
- Mendocino Food and Nutrition Program
- Plowshares
- Potter Valley Youth and Community Center
- Redwood Coast Seniors
- Round Valley Food Pantry
- Round Valley Indian Tribes Senior Center
- Ukiah Senior Center
- Willits Community Services
- Willits Daily Bread
- Willits Senior Center

We are requesting \$250,000 from The County of Mendocino to be used for food relief and personal hygiene products, with 15% for indirect overhead for program administration. These funds would be granted through our trusted non-profit partners to serve populations in every community countywide. By matching what we have raised to date, the County of Mendocino can make a significant impact to help residents who are struggling through this crisis. Together we can distribute 2-4 more rounds of funding to organizations in need, to ensure our people are cared for at the most basic level.

The Community Foundation has a solid history working collaboratively with the County of Mendocino to support our communities in need. This collaboration was critical to the success of our fire recovery efforts, and we hope to work in partnership again to help everyone in our community through this unprecedented crisis.

Thank you for your consideration, please let me know if you have any questions.

Warmly,

*Megan*

Megan Barber Allende  
President/CEO