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Community Foundation Launches Restoring Hope \$150K Challenge Match for COVID Relief

The Grand Haven Area Community Foundation is raising money for community relief and recovery in response to COVID-19.

Grand Haven, Mich. – Beginning today, the Grand Haven Area Community Foundation has launched an initial \$150,000 challenge match to raise money for the Community Relief & Recovery Fund. This new fund begins the second phase of the foundation’s response to COVID-19 and marks the transition from the initial emergency human needs response to focus on the current and longer-term impact that the pandemic will have on individuals, families, and nonprofit partners within Northern Ottawa County.

“This fund will enable the foundation, fund holders, and donors to pool resources to collectively support relief and recovery of nonprofits who have been adversely affected by COVID-19,” said Chris Riker, Vice President of Advancement and Donor Services at the GHACF. “The fund is non-endowed to ensure resources will be used to respond to the evolving crisis and long-term plans for recovery.”

Grants will be awarded to support core operations in an effort to allow the organization to fully support Northwest Ottawa County communities. Priority will be granted to organizations serving individuals, families, and/or communities most impacted by COVID-19. Areas of focus include accessible nutrition, access to arts & culture, education, frontline fatigue, physical and mental health, safe housing, and vulnerable communities such as seniors and youth.

“The entire community is invited to support the Restoring Hope Challenge Match,” said Riker. “Every gift makes an impact, and because the foundation is matching all donations, \$50 becomes

\$100, \$100 becomes \$200, and so on. We're extremely grateful for the generosity this community has continued to demonstrate and ask that they don't stop now."

If you would like to help, you can make an online donation to the Community Relief & Recovery Fund on our [Donation Page](#). You may also mail a check (please include CR&R Fund in the memo line) to the Grand Haven Area Community Foundation at One South Harbor Drive, Grand Haven, MI 49417.

The goal is to fully realize this match by June 19th.

Since mid-March, hundreds of individuals, families, companies, and organizations have generously contributed more than \$900,000 to the Emergency Human Needs Fund. Those pooled contributions were in turn expeditiously and strategically awarded in the form of 110 grants to local nonprofit organizations that were focused on keeping people fed, housed, and healthy during this time of increased need.

ABOUT THE GHACF

The Grand Haven Area Community Foundation is a public, charitable organization serving the Northwest Ottawa County community since 1971. GHACF is regularly recognized as a top 100 Community Foundation in the nation and is the 8th largest community foundation in the State of Michigan. It encourages philanthropy by individuals, families, corporations, and organizations, and serves as a steward of their charitable funds and legacies. In addition to awarding grants, the Foundation offers technical support to nonprofits, convenes community leaders on issues of importance, and advocates for the nonprofit sector. For more information visit ghacf.org.

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