

## Week of Compassion COVID-19 Response -Phase 2: June-November 2020-

### **Situation Summary:**

The COVID-19 global pandemic has created incredible need in the United States, Canada, and around the world. According to WHO statistics More than 3.5 million cases of COVID-19 and 250,000 deaths have now been reported. As of May 7, 2020, only 13 countries report no cases (the majority of those are Pacific Island nations, and some experts question reports from other nations such as Turkmenistan and North Korea). Forecasts from the World Bank reveal that the pandemic is likely to cause the first increase in global poverty rates since 1998 and the Asian Financial Crisis. The World Bank further estimates that the pandemic will likely push an estimated 49 million people into extreme poverty in 2020. Interruptions to livelihoods, food production, and supply chains are of significant concern. Domestically, the pandemic and the measures enacted to slow its spread have resulted in roughly 37 million people filing for unemployment assistance in the United States and Canada in March and April, 2020. While the course of the virus and development of a vaccine and treatment are uncertain, the effects of the pandemic are likely to last throughout the year and possibly into 2021.

### **Action To Date:**

Domestic--Week of Compassion domestic responses have included three primary categories: Congregational Solidarity Grants for Community Assistance, Household Solidarity Grants for Income Loss, and General Ministry Coordination. As of May 7, 2020, Week of Compassion has dispersed grants to 42 congregations totaling \$108,650 and helped connect many more congregations with other available resources.

International--Week of Compassion partners are adapting existing programs as well as developing new responses to meet COVID-19 related needs. As of May 7, Week of Compassion has dispersed \$64,000 in response to 8 requests from various partners in Latin America and Caribbean, the Middle East, Europe, and Asia.

### **Recommended Phase 2 Action:**

In the next phase of response to COVID-19, the staff of Week of Compassion propose three main areas of focus, in addition to the continued collaboration with and referral to other Disciples General Ministries.

1. Domestic--Allocate up to \$500,000 for the following two domestic responses:  
Reactivate the Household Solidarity Grant for Income Loss program to provide support for highly vulnerable households who are experiencing extreme financial hardship and are not eligible for state or federal assistance. The second round of grants will be vetted first by Regional Ministers or the Central Pastors for the racial-ethnic ministries and will have more rigorous requirements for eligibility. Please see the sample grant application below.
2. Continue providing grants for congregational ministries, focused on ministries addressing food security. Please see the sample grant application below.
3. International--Allocate up to \$1 million for global responses:  
Support appeals from global partners, focusing especially on food security and WASH. Please read the summary below for assessing the appeals.

**Recommended Action to the Board:**

Move that the Board of Stewards authorize the allocation and use up to \$1.3 million from unrestricted funds (roughly \$500,000 from the Compassion in Action fund and up to \$800,000 from unrestricted reserves) for COVID-19 responses in addition to COVID-19 restricted funds, totaling up to \$1.5 million, as outlined in the above proposal and at the discretion of the Executive Director, through November 2020.





*Week of Compassion is the relief, refugee and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).*

### **COVID-19 Relief Ministry Support Grant**

Grant period opens June 1, 2020. Priority will be given to food-related ministries.

Return completed applications to your Regional Minister or National Pastor.

#### APPLICANT INFORMATION

Ministry Name:

Affiliation: Congregational Ministry please specify:

Primary Contact:

Mailing Address:

Phone:

Email:

If an independent ministry, 501©3 or CRA registration:

If awarded, to whom should the grant check be addressed?

#### IMPACT INFORMATION

Brief description of the ministry and its mission:

Amount Requested (maximum grant, \$2,000):

How is this ministry directly meeting needs related to the COVID-19 pandemic?

If this was a pre-existing ministry, what effects has the COVID-19 pandemic had (e.g. increased needs, changes in available resources)?

What is the intended use of grant funding?

What the estimated impact (e.g. number and demographics of households served)?

Please list any other partners or collaborators in the ministry:

Has the ministry applied for or received funding from other Disciples ministries, Regional or General?

**Please attach a budget and Form 990 (if applicable) on separate page.**

## **Week of Compassion**

### **COVID19 Global Response**

In just a matter of a few short months confirmed cases of COVID19 have crossed over 4 million with associated deaths topping over 300,000. The pandemic has taken its greatest toll on older generations and individuals with weakened immune systems and/or pre-existing health conditions. The impact has created a domino effect that has placed unprecedented strain on some of the world's most vulnerable populations who were already 'living on the edge'. Every year nearly 9 Million people die of hunger and hunger related issues.

The United Nation has predicted that the impacts of COVID19 could see that number double within the next year without a rapid response and significant intervention from the global community.

In response to the global impact of COVID19, Week of Compassion is drawing on its history and expertise of responding to global hunger and health needs by stepping up and continuing its commitment to serving the most vulnerable communities. With a holistic approach to food security and community health, Week of Compassion will focus efforts on heavily impacted areas of the world by working with established partners and planning for long-term interventions.

Recognizing the long-term implications and ripple effect of COVID19 Week of Compassion will receive proposals focused on two main types of interventions responding to COVID19- **Food Insecurity** and **WASH**(Water, Sanitation and Hygiene).

Food Security interventions will demonstrate the following:

- Lives will be saved from 'secondary starvation'
- Proper nutrition will help keep immune systems strong to fight infection(s) such as COVID19
- Local economies will be strengthened and prevent impact from global events now and in the future

WASH interventions will demonstrate the following:

- The spread of COVID19 would be limited by proper sanitation training and education.
- Lives will be saved by means of adequate access to proper sanitation facilities.

Funding proposals to Week of Compassion will be considered in two phases and proposals should include interventions that span 6-12 months in length. Grants will be available in two phases- phase one (June-August 2020) and phase two (September-November 2020).

Grants will **not** support general overhead expenses and will only be considered for interventions that are beyond current organizational programming.

Proposals will be evaluated on a case by case basis and must include clear information about how COVID19 has adversely impacted the target population and/or is of high threat to the target population.

Each proposal will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Community Need: What is the level of threat/need? How was the threat/need identified? Is the need quantifiable?
  - Partners/Collaboration: Who, Where and How will the organization partner with and/or collaborate with others in the field?
  - Restrictions in place: Are the local, state and national governments putting restrictions in place that would prevent the partner ability to implement?
  - Strategy/Feasibility: Is the proposal strategically outlined/well defined and feasible?
  - Impact: Will the intervention have a broad impact?
  - Organizational Fit: Does the intervention fit the expertise, capacity and capabilities of the implementing organization?
  - Budget: Is there a clear detailed feasible budget included with the proposal?
  - Sustainability: Is there a detailed plan in place for sustainability of the intervention?
  - Monitoring/Evaluation: How will data be collected and reported during and after the intervention?
  - Replicability: Is the intervention easily replicable?
  - Organizational Health: Does the organization demonstrate the stability and organizational health necessary to carry out the intervention?
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**Week of Compassion COVID19 Funding Rubric**  
**FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY**

Categories/ Questions	1-Low	3-Medium	5-High
COMMUNITY NEED	Little to no need has been demonstrated in the proposal and/or the proposed intervention is already being done by other organizations in the identified community.	The proposal demonstrates a moderate need for the intervention based on anecdotal information received or gathered by the organization.	The proposal demonstrates a critical need for the intervention based on evidence backed by 2 or more trusted sources and gathered since the onset of COVID19.
PARTNERS/ COLLABORATION	The proposal does not consider other partners or organizations already working in this field and/or demonstrate a desire to collaborate with potential partners.	Some consideration has been given to working with other organizations in the area but no formal commitments have been made. Openness to working with and a plan for collaboration has been demonstrated in the proposal.	The proposal identifies partners and fully outlines roles, responsibilities and a clear commitment from partner agencies to work together to avoid duplication of efforts and enhanced response to the need. All partners have a clear understanding of their roles.

STRATEGY/ FEASIBILITY	The proposal has ill-defined goals and/or does not include realistic or effective strategies. The goals do not directly correlate to the identified need and the project is unlikely to succeed.	The proposal demonstrates relevant goals pertaining to the identified need however, the proposed intervention is not very innovative and feasibility is questionable.	The proposal has clearly defined goals based on the identified need and demonstrates a well thought out timeline drawing from evidence based techniques that are innovative. The organization has demonstrated the capacity to successfully complete the intervention.
IMPACT	The intervention is unlikely to have a significant impact on the community and/or unintended (negative) consequences may occur.	The intervention will likely offer broad benefit to the community but it is unclear how significant the impact will be or if the impact will truly be life-changing.	The intervention will have far-reaching and significant impact thus creating a life-changing events within the community and beyond the direct beneficiaries and target community.
ORGANIZATIONAL FIT	The proposal and intervention does not align with the organization's mission or history of doing similar work/serving the target population, or is not compatible in scale to past programs/implementation.	The intervention does not directly align with the organization's previous work but the proposal demonstrates how the organization will adapt and adjust current programming while drawing on previous	The proposed intervention is a clear fit for the organization's mission, expertise and demonstrated experience. The organization has a history of working with the target population and they are clear leaders in the field.



		expertise to fit the new context and meet the goals.	
BUDGET	The budget is incomplete, unrealistic and/or questionable.	The budget is complete and seems realistic but is not fully fleshed out.	The budget is complete, includes all aspects of the intervention and has considered other funding sources and demonstrates how WOC is not the sole funder.
SUSTAINABILITY	There is no plan outlined for sustainability of the intervention and/or little evidence that the organization has the ability to develop a sustainability plan	There is no detailed sustainability plan included in the proposal however, the organization has the capacity and has noted the intent to sustain the intervention.	There is a well defined sustainability plan included in the proposal that is realistic and attainable. The organization's intent and capacity to sustain the intervention is evident. There is a well defined sustainability plan included in the proposal that leverages local assets and is realistic.

<p style="text-align: center;">REPLICABILITY</p>	<p>The intervention is not replicable as outlined in the proposal.</p>	<p>There is potential for the intervention to be replicable and a desire to replicate it outlined in the proposal however, no detailed plans are included.</p>	<p>The proposal clearly demonstrates and defines how the intervention will be replicated. There is also evidence based information that replicability of the intervention is possible.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">MONITORING/ EVALUATION</p>	<p>There is no plan or a very vague plan to provide monitoring and evaluation of outcomes.</p>	<p>The proposal identifies several metrics for evaluation and how the outcomes will be measured however, the plan is not fully fleshed out about how the data will be collected and reported.</p>	<p>Clear metrics based on the goals and proposed outcomes have been identified and clear plans are in place for how data will be collected, tracked and reported in a timely manner.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">ORGANIZATIONAL HEALTH</p>	<p>The organization applying for funding has not demonstrated capacity, competency and/or organizational stability needed to carry out the proposed intervention.</p>	<p>The organization has a good reputation, competent staffing and stable operations which includes revenue from diverse sources.</p>	<p>The organization is high functioning and provides high caliber services to the populations it serves. It is financially sound with high standards of accountability to all stakeholders.</p>