



PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release
April 3, 2020

Community Foundation of Jackson Hole signs Council on Foundations' COVID-19 Pledge of Action

Jackson, WY - This week, Community Foundation of Jackson Hole President Laurie Andrews signed the Council on Foundations' (COF) Pledge of Action, which outlines common commitments made by dozens of private, family and community foundations to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Beginning in mid-March, The Foundation implemented various measures to mitigate the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the Jackson Hole community including establishing the Community Emergency Response Fund, working closely with our nonprofit partners to navigate critical operational and financial needs, and supporting the efforts of frontline agencies through grants to local nonprofits.

"We understand the uncertainty facing the nonprofits - and our whole community - at this time," said Laurie Andrews, President of the Community Foundation of Jackson Hole. "We have joined forces with foundations and institutions across the country to support and reinforce our nonprofits' capacity to withstand and overcome the challenges of this time. With this pledge, we want to provide the flexibility for you - our partners - to do what you believe is best for those you serve."

The COF pledge identifies eight key commitments that signatory foundations will take to support nonprofit partners and the people and communities hit hardest by the impacts of COVID-19. They include:

- Loosening or eliminating restrictions on current grants.
- Making new grants as flexible as possible
- Reducing requests of nonprofit partners
- Contributing to community-based emergency response funds and other efforts that are addressing health and economic impacts of the pandemic
- Communicating proactively and regularly about decision-making and response
- Committing to listening to partners and especially to those communities least heard
- Support grantee partners advocating for important public policy changes, as appropriate
- Freely share emergency practice learnings and consider adjusting philanthropic practices as needed

Find the full [COF Pledge of Action](#) and consider [joining the pledge](#) here.

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About the Community Foundation of Jackson Hole

The Community Foundation of Jackson Hole improves lives through philanthropic leadership, helping to make giving smarter, nonprofits more effective and our community stronger for over 30 years. With over \$85 million in assets comprised of over 250 funds, the Foundation works with donors and nonprofits to enrich all aspects of our community and enables donors to establish personal philanthropic funds including donor advised, endowment, field of interest and legacy funds to facilitate their giving.

The Foundation also administers various grant programs to address critical needs in our community and support organizations based on impact, collaboration, innovation and capacity. Annually, the Foundation



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organizes Old Bill's Fun Run for Charities, which has raised over \$173 million since inception for local nonprofits. The Foundation is accredited in compliance with National Standards for U.S. Community.

Foundations and has consistently ranked in the Top Ten among U.S. community foundations in gifts per capita, grant activity and transactional volume since 2014 according to CF Insights annual survey—the only community foundation to do so in all three of these categories.

Media Contact

Anne Bradley, Director of Marketing & Communications

abradley@cfjacksonhole.org