



**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Community Emergency Response Fund raises \$2.5 million dollars

Jackson, WY – The Community Foundation of Jackson Hole announced today that its Community Emergency Response Fund has raised a milestone \$2.5 million dollars to provide immediate support to our community’s most vulnerable populations through grants to local nonprofits during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Fund was established by the Foundation and its Board of Directors last month as a preparedness measure to support essential services within the Jackson Hole community. To date, more than 200 donors have made gifts to the Fund.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to unfold in Teton County, the Community Foundation will continue to ensure that the Emergency Response Fund’s resources increase in tandem with our community’s rapidly evolving needs. Last week, Jon and Deborah Dawson committed a lead gift to the Emergency Response Fund.

“It is the bad times that reveal the good qualities of a community,” remarked Jon Dawson. “Ours has responded so positively to the challenges presented by the current pandemic. Never have the needs of so many been so enormous and compelling. We feel privileged to play a small part in supporting the Community Foundation of Jackson Hole and the Emergency Response Fund to spearhead the effort to help in this difficult time.”

The Community Emergency Response Fund is addressing community needs in coordination with local frontline agencies. Since launching in mid-March, the Emergency Response Fund has granted a total of more than \$1 million dollars across 16 local organizations. Relief funds are being disbursed daily to nonprofits, as the Community Foundation receives requests for assistance. Since many Teton County residents are seeking help for the first time, the Community Foundation is anticipating that the need will continue to grow as the pandemic runs its course.

“The Community Foundation has been in constant communication with local nonprofits as well as Town and County leaders to keep our finger on the pulse of the critical needs within our community,” stated Laurie Andrews, President of the Community Foundation of Jackson Hole. “We are deploying grants quickly and thoughtfully to the agencies serving our most at-risk community members. From lost wages and food assistance to food delivery for seniors and additional nurses to support Teton County Health Department’s contact tracing efforts – the needs are extensive.”

More information about accessing the Community Emergency Response Fund and providing donations is available at cfjacksonhole.org.

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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 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.

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