Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham Responds to Support Organizations on the Frontlines

April 9, 2020 – Philanthropic partners, businesses and individuals have responded generously with contributions to the Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham’s COVID-19 Relief Fund with the first round of grants being deployed to organizations on the frontlines in our region this week. Grants were awarded to non-profit organizations that serve our five-county region, and include:

- Alabama Kidney Foundation for transportation to dialysis for high medical needs patients ($5,000)
- East Lake Initiative for food, rent assistance, utility assistance for impacted families ($15,000)
- Hispanic Interest Coalition of Alabama (HICA) to support emergency fund for basic needs and provide technology adaptations to facilitate service provision ($25,000)
- Impact Family Counseling to support mental health services to children and families and provide remote access to clients ($20,000)
- The Ministry at Green Springs Provide delivery and drive through food distribution to clients ($10,000)
- Safehouse for Shelby County to facilitate remote work and support and safety and health measures within domestic violence shelter ($5,000)
- Space One Eleven to provide technology assistance to move art classes for low-income children to online access ($5,000)

In addition, the Community Foundation provided a grant to support the Birmingham Business Resource Center in providing navigation support exclusively to nonprofits who are applying for funding through the Payroll Protection Program of the CARES Act. Nonprofits can call 205.250.6380 x 6611 to access the hot line for questions and support.

Organizations can apply on the Community Foundation’s website at cfbham.org. Applications for these grants will be accepted on a rolling basis through the end of May, after which the Foundation will reevaluate community needs. Grants will be made regularly throughout the outbreak and recovery phases of the crisis, making it possible to move resources quickly and adapt to evolving needs in subsequent funding phases.

Also this week the Catalyst Fund at the Community Foundation announced three grants to support critical needs related to the COVID-19 crisis:

- The Women’s Fund of Birmingham for a challenge grant to their Rapid Operating and Relief for Women Fund (ROAR) to help at-risk child care centers serving essential workers in the region ($100,000)
• University of Alabama at Birmingham to provide child care for medical and other essential health care workers during the COVID-19 crisis ($50,000)
• University of Alabama at Birmingham for COVID-19 Vaccine and treatment research ($50,000)

The Catalyst Funds are a special pool of funds at the Community Foundation that are designated for transformational projects in the region. Recent projects supported by the Catalyst Funds include the pilot program for Birmingham On-Demand microtransit, Together We Prosper, regional cooperation efforts and Birmingham Lights, the light art installations in the downtown underpasses.

To learn more about Emergency Response Grants or make a donation to the COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund visit www.cfbham.org/covid-19-response-fund.

About the Community Foundation
The Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham was founded in 1959 by a group of generous, dedicated leaders as a public endowment to support enduring change and success for the community. Over the last 61 years, the Foundation has invested over $505 million in the community to support transformational change. Together with our donors and partners, we are working towards realizing our vision for a just, prosperous and unified region where every person is empowered to reach their full potential. For more information, visit www.cfbham.org or call 205-327-3806.