

NEWS RELEASE

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Vermilion Healthcare Foundation Awards United Way Special COVID-19 Relief Grant

The Vermilion Healthcare Foundation announced today that it is awarding a special \$50,000 grant to the United Way of Danville Area COVID-Relief Fund to assist individuals and families with another source for much-needed financial assistance. Board Chair Linda Bolton stated, "Our board was unanimous in wanting to respond to the challenging circumstances created by the pandemic. This is truly a paradigm shift for us, as our normal procedure is to accept and evaluate grant applications from organizations across the community. However, it was felt that supporting the United Way in its relief efforts warranted a special grant."

Originated in March of this year, the United Way COVID-19 Relief Fund is a source for financial assistance to families who have lost jobs or suffered from reduced wages as a result of the pandemic. The United Way has been working with both the Vermilion County Unmet Needs Committee and Love INC as distribution centers for applications for those seeking support. Questions regarding the program can be directed to Sherri Askren at the United Way (217-442-512), Sandra Finch at Vermilion County Unmet Needs Committee (217-431-2280), or Michael Rohall at Love INC (217-442-5683).

The Vermilion Healthcare Foundation has distributed over \$8 million to local not-for-profit organizations and over \$10 million to the local hospital since the Foundation's inception in 1987. Originally formed as a product of the combination of St. Elizabeth Hospital and Lakeview Memorial Hospital, the Foundation's primary objective is to seek out and support organizations engaged in education and healthcare initiatives.

"We encourage local not-for-profit groups impacted by the pandemic to submit their grant requests for review by our Grants and Planning Committee and Board, as we anticipate needs to mount as we continue to journey through this pandemic," Bolton says.

Information on the Vermilion Healthcare Foundation and its grant application process is available on their website: vermilionhealthcarefoundation.org.

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