



Emergency Community Support Fund

On Tuesday, the Prime Minister announced the new Emergency Community Support Fund

<https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/04/21/prime-minister-announces-further-support-help-canadians-need> to support vulnerable Canadians through charities and non-profit organizations that deliver essential services to those in need. This message aims at encouraging you to check the websites of the United Way Centraide Canada, the Canadian Red Cross and Community Foundations of Canada to learn more about how and when to apply.

The Government of Canada has announced a \$350 million Emergency Community Support Fund to help community organizations adapt frontline services for vulnerable Canadians – such as seniors, people with disabilities, veterans, newcomers, women, children and youth, LGBTQ2 people, Indigenous people and racialized people – to the challenges of COVID-19.

The Emergency Community Support Fund will allow community organizations to adjust their services to meet the evolving inclusion, wellbeing and safety needs of vulnerable Canadians in the face of COVID-19.

Among other things, community organizations may use the funds to:

- Expand home deliveries of groceries or medication;
- Transport seniors or people with disabilities to appointments;
- Widen the reach of help lines that give information and link people to services;
- Replace in-person, one-on-one contact with contact through phone calls, texts or the Internet; and
- Train volunteers on health and safety so that they can continue to make their invaluable contributions to the COVID-19 response.

The Government will disburse funds through national partners, such as the United Way Centraide Canada, the Canadian Red Cross and Community Foundations of Canada.

The Emergency Community Support Fund's national partners will leverage existing community-based networks to ensure a rapid and effective flow of funds in line with local community needs. The networks of those partners stretch across the country. Their local offices and agencies understand local issues and many are already funding community organizations to respond to COVID-19.

Community organizations will be able to apply for funds through the national partners or their local entities. The partners and their networks are working as quickly as possible to set up application processes. Community organizations should check the websites of the United Way Centraide Canada, the Canadian Red Cross and Community Foundations of Canada to learn more about how and when they will be able to apply.

<http://www.unitedway.ca/blog/covid-19-government-of-canada-announces-350m-emergency-community-support-fund>

<https://www.communityfoundations.ca/initiatives/responding-to-covid-19/>

<https://www.redcross.ca/about-us/media-news/news-releases/joint-statement-canadian-red-cross-community-foundations-of-canada-united-way-centraide-canada>