



Discussion on Funder Collaboration for COVID-19

April 6, 2020 | 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Meeting Notes

Resources

Speaker Contact

- Amanda Andere, Funders Together to End Homelessness | amanda@funderstogether.org
- Andrea Evans, Tipping Point Community | aevans@tippingpoint.org
- Jennifer Loving, Destination Home | jennifer@destinationhomesv.org

Speaker Resources

- [FTEH Analysis of relief package](#)
- [Tipping Point Grants Distributed as of 4/3](#)
- [National Alliance to End Homelessness](#) | [Homelessness Needs by County](#)
 - [Interactive Dashboard](#)

Other Contacts

- Laura Escobar, United Way, Contact if interested in funding Solano County | lescobar@uwba.org
- Melissa Stafford Jones, Leshar Foundation– Contact if interested in funding unemployment insurance

Upcoming Meetings

- April 8th | [Funders Together Member Weekly COVID-19 Call](#)
- April 16th | [Discussion on Funder Collaboration for COVID-19](#) (Focus on nonprofit resiliency)

Other

- [Philanthropy CA: COVID-19 Response Resource Page](#)
- [Oakland COVID-19 Relief Fund](#)
- [Eviction Defense Collaborative](#)

Cash Assistance

- [SaverLife – Cash Relief Platform](#), provide back-end infrastructure to nonprofits who would like to give out cash
- [Mission Asset Fund – Interest in direct cash assistance](#)
- [Give Directly](#)



Introduction & Framing

The COVID-19 crisis is particularly dangerous for people experiencing homelessness, who are often in poorer health than other community members, and have more difficulty in taking the measures needed to prevent infection. Participants heard about the need for, and efforts underway to secure immediate housing and services for people experiencing homelessness, and how philanthropy can meet these critical immediate needs, while also advancing long term goals of preventing and ending homelessness.

Amanda Andere, CEO of Funders Together to End Homelessness (FTEH)

- FTEH is a national network of funders supporting solutions to end homelessness, with a strong commitment to advancing racial equity.
- Framing & Opportunities for Funders
 - As shelters are not sustainable for those experiencing homelessness, many communities are seeking to provide immediate housing through hotels, motels, dorm rooms, and other larger spaces where social distancing can be practiced.
 - There's a big focus on prevention. Providers are developing creative, large scale solutions to provide immediate housing, it's crucial to develop and for funders to support long term efforts to ensure people are not going back to the streets after the pandemic.
 - CARE Act will provide \$4 billion dollars in emergency funds and will be administered by the Department of Housing & Urban Development.
 - There will be a \$150 billion dollar relief fund that will be administered by the Department of Treasury to the state. Distribution will be based on population and this grants a great opportunity for philanthropy to influence these federal funds to center on housing and homelessness.
 - Philanthropy can also create space for nonprofit leaders to think strategically about how to respond strategically to federal funds. Local shelters are just trying to maintain, don't have the capacity to think strategically about how to use these funds.
 - Crucial to fund an ecosystem of organizations that support black and brown communities to ensure these communities have access and are receiving federal and other mainstream funds.

Jennifer Loving, CEO of Destination Home

- Destination Home is a public-private partnership working to ending homelessness in Santa Clara County.



- Destination Home works under the structure of the Emergency Operation Center, which is the central command and control facility for emergency management.
- Destination Home's response activities include:
 - Protecting people who are homeless now by providing sanitation materials, hotel rooms, medical triage, etc.
 - PPE – Currently working with health care system, there is such great need for masks, gloves, and sanitizer. Frontline workers don't have what they need to be safe.
 - Great opportunity for funders and corporations to provide these supplies.
 - Raised \$11 million dollar fund -Financial Assistance for Low-Income Residents Impacted by COVID-19. Funds were drained after three days. Working with partners to raise more funds.
 - Proposed a 90 day rent waiver to help those who are most vulnerable to losing their home.
- Federal relief is coming, but many people will be left out, including those who are undocumented.
- Will need federal funds, local funds, rent waivers, etc. all working together, in order to overcome the impacts of COVID-19.

Andrea Evans, Senior Planner of Tipping Point Community

- Tipping Point is dedicated to fighting poverty and long term homelessness in the Bay Area.
- Provided \$700K in emergency grants to 40 grantees during round one, in which half went to organizations serving the homeless or those at high risk of becoming homeless. Hope to grant second round next week.
- Haven't done a lot of homelessness grantmaking, but recognize it as a crisis and will be making smaller grants for those organizations serving the chronically homeless this week.
- With a firm belief that those with lived experiences know the best solutions to move forward, Tipping Point developed a 7 person Community Advisory Board, composed of people who have experienced homelessness, to aid in identifying the needs and make recommendations for grantmaking.
- Many nonprofit partners are struggling with staffing shortages. TP is paying to bring in local recruiters to aid with emergency staffing process. A needs assessment filled out by 16 organizations, showed a high demand for staff, for a short period of time.
- Need to think about how to support nonprofits that are now doing more work, with less resources.



- Need to ensure that those who are most affected by the pandemic have a seat at the table when decisions are being made.
- Using All in Campaign to provide education on how COVID-19 is impacting those experiencing homelessness, spotlighting nonprofit partners work, and asking for financial support.
- A key role philanthropy can play is creating space to identify key partnerships and develop sustainable, long term solutions.
- Last week, TP provided a webinar to aid nonprofits apply for grants. Philanthropy should think of ways to make applications easier and provide any technical assistance that is needed in submitting applications for funding.

Closing

- NCG is working with Candid and other nonprofit networks to aggregate nonprofit needs to share out with our membership. Please reach out if you have data we can include.
- Stay tuned for a funder homelessness collaborative meeting in late April.