

# Jewish Hartford

## Rapid Relief & Recovery Fund

To support the people, agencies and synagogues impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, Federation and Foundation jointly launched the **Rapid Relief and Recovery Fund** (RRR Fund) and recruited a group of seasoned community leaders to oversee a process to determine how to best award grants. With the help of skilled, volunteer liaisons, local Jewish agencies and synagogues provided reports on the hardships they endured due to COVID-19.

The RRR Fund's Grantmaking Committee reviewed the reports to gauge overall community needs and determine an equitable grantmaking process. Grantmaking criteria included the number of people served, the financial impact of COVID-19, and the urgency of the need. All grants from the Fund are approved by the Boards of the Foundation and Federation.

As of October 27, 2020, the RRR Fund collected nearly 500 contributions totaling close to \$1 million – an incredible achievement that speaks to our community's compassion and generosity, and for which we are tremendously grateful. Over the past few months, these contributions have made the following grants possible:

- \$88,000 to support basic human needs such as food and emergency financial assistance for individuals and families
- \$285,000 to 11 local Jewish agencies to help mitigate the economic challenges caused by COVID-19, including:
  - \$165,000 for organizational sustainability
  - \$60,000 for need-based day school scholarships
  - \$60,000 for PPE and pandemic-related capital needs
- \$52,000 in small grants to 16 synagogues to help them defray the cost of unanticipated High Holiday expenses, such as outdoor tents and live-streaming equipment

Next month, the Grantmaking Committee intends to award larger grants to synagogues to bolster their operations. Also in November, the Jewish Free Loan Fund of Greater Hartford will begin accepting interest-free loan applications from local individuals, families, and businesses in need. A handful of donors contributed \$175,000 to the RRR Fund specifically to establish the free loan fund.

Within the RRR Fund, the Grantmaking Committee has earmarked an additional \$137,000 for basic human needs and \$40,000 for community needs, including those of agencies, to be granted on an emergent basis.

Detailed below are the RRR Fund grants provided to support our agencies and to provide humanitarian assistance. The Committee is currently processing operational support grants for synagogues and will post the details by the end of November, as well as update the amounts awarded for humanitarian aid. For more information, please contact Michael Elfenbaum at [Melfenbaum@jcfhartford.org](mailto:Melfenbaum@jcfhartford.org) or Laura Zimmerman at [Lzimmerman@jewishhartford.org](mailto:Lzimmerman@jewishhartford.org).

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### Agency Assistance

Camp Laurelwood	Operational support related to impact of COVID-19	\$5,000.00
Chabad Chevra	Operational support related to impact of COVID-19	\$5,000.00
Hebrew Senior Care	Operational support related to impact of COVID-19	\$10,000.00
Jewish Family Services of Greater Hartford	Operational support related to impact of COVID-19	\$50,000.00
Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford	Community Services Building air filtration system	\$10,000.00
Jewish Teen Learning Connection	Operational support related to impact of COVID-19	\$10,000.00
Joyce D. and Andrew J. Mandell Jewish Community Center	Operational support related to impact of COVID-19	\$75,000.00
Mikveh Bess Israel of West Hartford	Operational support related to impact of COVID-19	\$5,000.00
New England Jewish Academy	Need-based scholarships related to COVID-19	\$30,000.00
New England Jewish Academy	Operational support related to impact of COVID-19	\$25,000.00
Solomon Schechter Day School of Greater Hartford	Need-based scholarships related to COVID-19	\$30,000.00
Solomon Schechter Day School of Greater Hartford	Operational support related to impact of COVID-19	\$25,000.00
Voices of Hope	Operational support related to impact of COVID-19	\$5,000.00
<b>Total Agency Assistance</b>		<b>\$285,000.00</b>

### Humanitarian Assistance

Emergency Food Assistance Program (via Federation and Foundation)	\$28,247.00
Augmented COVID-19 Food Program (via JFS)	\$30,000.00
Financial Assistance to individuals (via Federation and Foundation)	\$22,650.00
PPE and other (via Federation)	\$7,383.00
<b>Total Humanitarian Assistance</b>	<b>\$88,280.00</b>

<b>Grand Total Agency and Humanitarian Assistance</b>	<b>\$373,280.00</b>
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