

DRAFT MESSAGE TO SHARE WITH YOUR LAWMAKERS

Dear Representative/Senator: **[Please select the title and include the name of the policymaker you are addressing]**

The COVID-19 pandemic is one of the most significant health and economic crises to ever face our country. Michigan philanthropy has remained nimble in this rapidly changing environment as we work to address current and anticipated community needs due to the outbreak. **[We/I]** appreciate the action that you have taken to help families and communities and your continued support of the charitable sector. The sector continues to be an economic engine with nearly 470,000 employees who provide critical services and economic benefits across our state, along with more than one million volunteers.

This pandemic has unearthed multiple challenges for Michiganders in the short and long term. As you prepare the next federal response package, **[we/I]** want to share examples of the investments that **[insert foundation name]** is making and offer additional insights for you to consider.

The **[insert foundation name]** has:

- **[Insert bullet points that provide specific/concrete examples of investments that you have made including the target audience and examples of partnerships you're engaging in and/or leveraging that have been working in real-time to respond to the crisis. We suggest you highlight no more than four examples and include partnerships such as those with local United Ways.]**

Philanthropy has responded to its mission in providing relief in the form of **[emergency shelter, food, water, school supplies, staffing supports etc. In this line you can use one-word descriptors for your work that align with the section above.]** **[If you signed the pledge – feel free to include this sentence]:** Additionally, we have joined our national philanthropic community in signing the [COVID-19 Pledge](#) that calls on philanthropy to provide greater flexibility to grantees and find new ways to streamline and adjust grantmaking practices amid the COVID-19 crisis. As a community foundation we are committed to being here **forever**, to support our community through this crisis and help it grow in the future.

Our partnerships with community and listening to community in co-designing solutions have rendered the following insights on where additional needs remain:

- **[Include bullet points that provide specific examples of where community needs remain.]**

As partners in delivering vital services, **[we/I]** hope you will consider the areas of greatest need in your next response package.

[insert foundation name] is here to answer any questions you may have about how we are responding and ways we can work together to strengthen our community.

Sincerely,

Name, title, organization

Include email address or phone # for follow up

