

# A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND CEO



## Responding to COVID-19

Good afternoon,

I hope this email finds you all healthy and safe. As the number of people affected by the COVID-19 virus in Illinois and across the nation continues to grow and economic impacts are felt, the Community Foundation stands ready to meet the ongoing needs of our local community and take on unexpected challenges.

The Community Foundation has been closely monitoring the recommendations of the World Health Organization, U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention and Illinois Department of Public Health in response to the developing coronavirus outbreak. We also remain in close collaboration with local partners, our statewide network of funders and nonprofit partners to ensure we're ready and available to mobilize resources, support and communications when and where they are most needed.

### **What is happening with Community Foundation grantmaking?**

Community Foundation grantmaking continues uninterrupted. We are staying in close contact with our philanthropic partners to ensure we're ready to assist if our community is directly impacted by COVID-19. We are also in ongoing communication with our investment managers who are confident that the Community Foundation's investment policies will enable our assets to withstand this period of market volatility, as they have done during previous periods of volatility. We will continue to closely monitor this situation.

### **What is the Community Foundation's approach to meetings, events and convenings?**

Health officials recommend social distancing as a course of action to slow the spread and reduce the impact of COVID-19. To protect community health and that of our volunteers and staff, our staff currently is either working remotely or on staggered in-office work schedules. In-person meetings with fewer than five people may continue to take place for the time being if remote communication is not possible. We are doing this as a proactive measure to ensure we remain healthy and responsive to community needs.

Our phone line remains open, and you may continue to contact staff members via email as well.

The Community Foundation encourages everyone to stay informed about COVID-19 and to practice safe habits. The [CDC website](#) is a good resource for both. You may also call 2-1-1 or visit the Illinois Department of Public Health's website [HERE](#).

Thank you for your patience and partnership during this challenging time. We will continue to communicate updates as necessary via email, the Community Foundation's website and our Facebook page. If you have any questions, please contact us at 217-789-4431 or [info@CFL.org](mailto:info@CFL.org).

Best regards,



John Stremsterfer  
President & CEO

