



**Immediate Release:**  
March 20, 2020

PO Box 11566, Pueblo, CO 81001  
310 E. Abriendo Ave, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Suite 300,  
Pueblo, CO 81004  
719-225-8580  
[www.pueblounitedway.org](http://www.pueblounitedway.org)

**Contact:**  
Shanna M. Farmer  
United Way of Pueblo County  
Cell: 719-334-6337  
[shanna@pueblounitedway.org](mailto:shanna@pueblounitedway.org)

## **UNITED WAY OF PUEBLO COUNTY ANNOUNCES EMERGENCY RESPONSE & RECOVERY FUND**

In response to the unprecedented COVID-19 crisis, **United Way of Pueblo County has launched an Emergency Response and Recovery Fund** to support our community's greatest needs. The **United Way of Pueblo County Board of Trustees has committed \$25,000 towards this fund**, and now UWPC is seeking additional contributions. Anyone who would like to donate can text **PuebloStrong** to **41444** or visit [www.pueblounitedway.org/emergency-fund](http://www.pueblounitedway.org/emergency-fund).

100% of donations received through this fund will directly support local Emergency Response and Recovery efforts. Funds will be allocated to local nonprofit agencies as we work in partnership to identify our community's most pressing immediate and long-term needs. We know that this crisis will be long lasting, and United Way of Pueblo County will work diligently to ensure that these funds are distributed fairly and with full transparency and accountability. We are monitoring the local situation closely.

UWPC is actively working with local partner agencies to identify those immediate needs and anticipated future challenges, while monitoring what assistance will become available to our partners at the state and federal levels. UWPC does not want to duplicate efforts and is committed to helping to fill the gaps that remain in our community. A committee of local stakeholders is being established to make recommendations on how the funds should be distributed.

"United Way of Pueblo County is committed to doing everything we can to help our local community through this crisis. Our motto of 'Live United' resonates now more than ever. We truly are all in this together," stated President/CEO Shanna M. Farmer. "Pueblo is a very strong community, so I am confident we will all step up to help one another. This is the first step in a long journey, but United Way of Pueblo County is proud to be part making that positive impact."

###

### **About United Way of Pueblo County**

United Way of Pueblo County works to develop donor resources to improve the quality of life for the people of Pueblo County. Last year, the more than 55 different health and human programs funded by United Way provided over 177,000 units of service to those in need. Over the past 97 years UWPC has raised over \$48,000,000 in campaign funds alone. In addition to campaign fundraising, United Way also administers the El Pomar Community Problem Solving Fund, Emergency Food and Shelter Program, and operates the United Way Middle School Mentoring Program and Pueblo Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA). Visit UWPC's website for a complete listing of the many organizations who receive funding and to find out how you can help through giving or volunteering [www.pueblounitedway.org](http://www.pueblounitedway.org) and like us [www.facebook.com/unitedwayofpueblocounty](http://www.facebook.com/unitedwayofpueblocounty).