The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have been devastating to vulnerable individuals and families. It is critical that we sustain the emergency response, while helping our communities emerge stronger and more prepared for the future.

During the first six months of the crisis, United Way raised and distributed over $8 million to more than 170 organizations across our region as well as to targeted programs and initiatives providing relief to people in need. These funds helped more than 300,000 households with food, housing and financial assistance for their basic needs.

United Way also established relief funds in partnership with some of the hardest hit cities in Massachusetts: Chelsea, Everett, Haverhill, Lawrence, Lynn, Randolph, Revere and Somerville, among others, to mobilize their residents and local nonprofits to reach the most vulnerable children and families.

**Funds Raised Will:**

- Continue to distribute emergency financial assistance to individuals and families in need
- Address the systemic racial and ethnic disparities revealed and heightened by the crisis
- Ensure early education and afterschool programs reopen so parents/caregivers can get back to work and contribute to the economy
- Prevent those who have lost income from losing their housing
- Pivot job training programs to prepare displaced workers for new positions

**What a Dollar Buys:**

- **$5 PER WEEK** can buy developmental screening for 5 children ages 0–5.
- **$10 PER WEEK** can buy summer learning and enrichment programs for 4 elementary school children.
- **$15 PER WEEK** can buy emergency heat and electrical assistance for 2 families during cold winter months.
- **$20 PER WEEK** can provide rent to help a struggling family avoid homelessness.
- **$25 PER WEEK** can buy Science, Technology, Engineering or Math (STEM) learning experiences for 10 middle school children to help prepare them for tomorrow’s workforce.
THE NEED IS GREATER THAN EVER

- Unemployment skyrocketed from 2.8% to more than 16% in just a few months.
- The rate of positive COVID-19 cases among Black and Latinx residents is 3x as high as the rate among white residents.
- More than 120,000 families are at risk of falling behind on housing payments and may face eviction when state moratoriums expire.
- 1 in 8 families is facing food insecurity.
- Families need safe, high quality learning environments for young children and school-aged youth.

United Way has been responding to local needs and our region’s most pressing issues in partnership with our network of community-based organizations since our beginning. COVID-19 is a new challenge for us, but we are undaunted. This is what we do every day.

THE FIGHT IS NOT OVER.
Help us as we continue to reimagine and rebuild our communities.

GET INVOLVED: UNITEDWAYMASSBAY.ORG

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- North Shore
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United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley