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METRO UNITED WAY INVITES NEW COMMUNITY PARTNERS TO DRIVE IMPACT AND INNOVATION AROUND CRITICAL NEEDS

Nonprofits Eligible for Funding to Address Gaps in Wealth, Education and Other Persistent Inequities

Louisville, Ky. (July 8, 2020) – Metro United Way is aggressively pursuing its transition to an investment strategy that recognizes the urgent need to address persistent inequities that stifle sustainable progress communitywide. The RFP process launched today seeks to create strategic partnerships to address the community's more urgent needs around the wealth and education gaps that have oppressed many for decades.

After months of extensive research, the organization defined critical community inequities that have been underprioritized and underfunded. Leaning on continued data and insight collection, MUW has focused its investment strategies to tackle key strategic needs as they progress, namely the significant and persisting gaps in wealth and education. Now, the organization seeks to identify nonprofit partners, both with pre-existing relationships and without, best equipped to address the most pressing needs.

With Louisville ranking fifth in the nation for concentrated poverty, closing the wealth and education gaps are key investment priorities to transform the region. The organization's efforts will provide on-going, long term response to these persistent needs that have only been amplified by the COVID-19 pandemic.

"As a trusted community partner for more than one hundred years, it is our responsibility to adhere to data-driven assessment of the greatest community needs through an equity lens to address deep drivers of change," said Theresa Reno-Weber, President and CEO of Metro United Way. "We are dedicated to refocusing and investing where needed. Identifying new nonprofit partners to drive innovation is just one way we are strategically investing in the community."

Nonprofits may now communicate their intent to apply for funding. Interested organizations should notify MUW of their intent to apply starting Wednesday, July 8 on the MUW [website](#) where they can request for access and login credentials to apply for the full RFP which will be open Friday, July 10 through Sunday, July 26.

Criteria for Funding

- The Internal Revenue Service has ruled the applicant to be a federally recognized tax exempt, not-for-profit organization or the organization has an application in process and a fiduciary agent.
- The applicant is seeking funds for programs, services, or strategies aimed at closing the wealth gap and/or education gap and responding to the persisting challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

- The applicant's programs, services, or strategies are focused on Jefferson County's 40202, 40203, 40208, 40210, 40211, 40212, 40214, 40215, 40216, 40218, 40219, 40272 zip codes in west and south Louisville.
- The applicant must be able to comply with MUW's Grant Agreement.
- The applicant is requesting funds for new or existing direct service, advocacy and/or other systems-level work within the zip codes mentioned above.
- Applicants may be single organizations, collaboratives, or partnerships.
- Organizations may submit more than one application.

Consideration for funding will be reviewed with focuses on equity, priority populations, education, economic mobility and pandemic relief and recovery. For more information on funding considerations for this RFP click [HERE](#).

For any additional question or more information on the application process, please contact Cindy Lehnert, cindy.lehnert@metrounitedway.org.

Request credentials and intent to apply, [HERE](#).

ABOUT METRO UNITED WAY

For more than 100 years, Metro United Way has empowered individuals and families to achieve their fullest potential by generating meaningful and lasting change in our community. We use data-driven insights to identify and prioritize the community's greatest needs with a focus on equitable outcomes for all. Together, we fight to improve the disparities that persist in education, income, health, housing, and racial equality in Jefferson, Bullitt, Oldham and Shelby counties in Kentucky and Clark, Floyd and Harrison counties in Indiana. We invite you to stand with us and be a part of transforming Greater Louisville.

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