



March 18, 2020

Dear Members of The Community Foundation Family:

First and foremost—our thoughts are with you, your families, and everyone throughout our San Luis Obispo County and across the world who has been impacted by COVID-19. During these challenging times your Community Foundation remains committed to responding quickly to the short- and long-term impact of this pandemic. Our top priority is the health and safety of our community members and we are already working with our nonprofit partners and government agencies across the County to support the urgent needs our community faces. The Community Foundation exists to help support our community, especially in times of need.

We know you want to help. Our community has a history of coming together in times of disaster. During times like this, the role of philanthropy is especially critical. We can act fast to support our most vulnerable people. Now is our time to act together. Though we find ourselves in uncharted waters, we've seen firsthand how our community has stepped up in the wake of other disasters. It's easy to feel helpless amid uncertainty but there are direct actions we can take now. We hope you'll join us.

Here are a few suggestions of how you can support our community in this time of need:

- Contribute to the [Disaster Support Fund](#) at the Foundation. Please join with us and your friends and neighbors by making a gift to this fund which will be used to support, seniors, low wage workers and others impacted by this virus. We already have **\$10,000 available to grant** and we hope you will **join us in matching this grant by making a contribution** to increase our impact.
- Support your favorite local charities. Many organizations have already had to cancel fundraising events and cultural program resulting in significant loss in revenue and health and human service organizations will need support to meet the increasing demands on their services.

During these challenging times please know that we will continue to focus on the needs of our communities and thank you for partnering with us.

Stay well,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Heidi".

Heidi H. McPherson  
Chief Executive Officer

#### Helpful Links

- [County of San Luis Obispo Health Agency COVID-19 information](#)
- [California Department of Public Health COVID-19 resources](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) COVID-19 information](#)