



## UMCOR COVID-19 Rapid Response Grants Guidelines

### I. Background

Since the outbreak of the novel coronavirus, Global Ministries has provided funding to assist with virus prevention and response for partners in China, the Philippines, and United Methodist central conferences in Africa. Educational materials have been developed and translated into several languages. Online trainings on best practices to respond to the disease are being conducted for health-care workers and others in Africa and the Philippines. This work requires the collaborative efforts of health boards, disaster management coordinators, medical professionals and church leaders.

The impact of the coronavirus will be felt for some time to come. Prevention efforts must continue. More personal protective equipment (PPE) is needed. Sanitation and hygiene resources need improvement in many places, as do health-care systems. Food security is being further jeopardized. Ethnic and racial minority populations are disproportionately affected in the U.S. by this disastrous disease, and other vulnerable populations are being impacted around the world.

For this reason, Global Ministries has set up an **UMCOR COVID-19 Response** fund (Advance #3022612) to expand and intensify United Methodist efforts. Grants from this rapid response fund – which will be limited to \$20,000 – will have a unique fast-track application and disbursement process.

COVID-19 Rapid Response grants are intended to assist racial and ethnic minority groups, indigenous populations and other vulnerable communities around the world that have experienced direct impact from the coronavirus. Grantees must be part of the Methodist connection. Grantees with currently open grants with UMCOR/Global Ministries will NOT be disqualified from receiving a Rapid Response grant. Grantees are required to assist the most vulnerable groups in an unbiased fashion and without regard for the beneficiaries' relationship with the church. Generally, bulk purchases may not exceed \$2500. COVID-19 Rapid Response grants may not exceed three months in duration.

### II. Program Goal

The purpose of this fund is to provide partners in the global Methodist connection the means to **provide immediate COVID-19 prevention and relief** activities to populations most impacted by the current pandemic.

### III. Objectives and Activities

The main objectives, and some examples of activities, of the UMCOR COVID-19 Response program are:

<b>Objective 1:</b> Health	Increased access to necessary health supplies <i>Example activities: purchase personal protective equipment (PPE) or other medical supplies, provide psycho-social support/services</i>
<b>Objective 2:</b> Food Assistance	Increased access to immediate food assistance <i>Example activities: food, meal, grocery card/voucher distribution</i>

<b>Objective 3:</b> Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)	Increased access to water, sanitation and hygiene products/supplies <i>Example activities: install handwashing stations, water storage or treatment units; conduct hygiene training; purchase and distribute soap and cleaning supplies</i>
<b>Objective 4:</b> Economic Stability	Increased ability for households to reach economic stability <i>Example activities: provide financial assistance to meet basic needs</i>
<b>Objective 5:</b> Other	Other Covid-19-related activities

#### IV. Target Population – Vulnerable Populations

A key objective of this program will be to reach vulnerable populations that have been most affected by the coronavirus. Although a global pandemic, the most vulnerable are defined within national, regional and local contexts.

#### V. Application Process

- Application and information about the UMCOR COVID-19 Response grants are available at [umcmmission.org](http://umcmmission.org).
- Applications, adhering to the template found on the website and containing no additional information or attachments, are due each Friday at noon and can be sent to [covidgrants@umcor.org](mailto:covidgrants@umcor.org) with subject line beginning with APP- followed by the name of the organization applying for the grant.
- If applicants have questions that are not answered by the guidance document on the website, they may send emails without attachments to [covidgrants@umcor.org](mailto:covidgrants@umcor.org) with QUESTION in the subject line.
- Grants are reviewed on a rolling basis weekly. Following submission of an application, applicants will be notified whether the grant has been approved, denied or placed on hold for possible future consideration.
- Funds will be disbursed in full to successful applicants upon receipt of a signed grant agreement. Reporting requirements and program policies will be issued to grantees at the time the grant agreement is issued. Approval of grants and distribution of funds is subject to the availability of funds raised through the UMCOR COVID-19 Response Advance (#3022612).