

# **AK Can Do COVID-19 Response Fund – Housing, Utility, and Childcare**

As this unprecedented pandemic unfolds, our neighbors across the state are experiencing unprecedented hardships. United Way of Anchorage and The Alaska Community Foundation, with support from Rasmuson Foundation, partnered to organize a statewide COVID-19 relief fund and people and businesses across Alaska have been donating money. Dollars raised from the campaign will assist our neighbors who have been devastated by the pandemic. After all, we're Alaskans, and that's what we do.

United Way of Anchorage will grant some of these funds to the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference (SWAMC) as the provider to distribute in its region to support neighbors in need of housing support, utility assistance, and childcare, to be used as follows:

**I. Purpose:** To help people economically impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic access critical housing assistance, childcare, and utilities assistance. **Funds will be sent directly to landlords, utility and childcare providers on behalf of the applicant.**

## **II. Scope of Assistance:**

- Current or imminent need for rent. Mortgage assistance only in rare circumstance when not subject to stimulus law protections. Past due balances from before the pandemic related economic loss are not eligible. Maximum is \$1,000 per household.
- Current or imminent need for utility assistance. Arrearages are not eligible.
- Emergency childcare, especially for “essential” workers like first responders and medical personnel.

## **III. Eligibility Criteria:**

### **General Guidelines:**

- Funding is for recently unemployed due to lay-offs, furloughs, or loss of income due to closures or shelter in place orders.
- Complete application and provide necessary documentation.
- While providers will be given discretion on whether an individual can receive multiple lines of support, the funder preference is to help as many people as possible.

### **Rental Assistance:**

- Maximum of one-month rent or mortgage payment, not to exceed \$1,000 per household;
- Must be used to maintain current housing (this is not financial support to get into housing or to sustain housing for someone unemployed before the pandemic-caused employment loss);

### **Childcare Assistance:**

- Prioritization will be given to essential workers like first responders and medical personnel, but other workers deemed essential will also be eligible.

#### **IV. Applicant Documentation Required:**

- Valid ID;
- Completed application;
- Rental or lease agreement or mortgage statement;
- Most recent paystub or self-employment documentation;
- Most recent utility bill;
- Most recent childcare invoice or receipt.
- The provider may be flexible on how such documentation is secured, given the difficulties due to shelter in place restrictions, large regions to serve, and the limitations on the availability of IT, including applying any measures/work-arounds the provider has adopted in response to COVID-19.

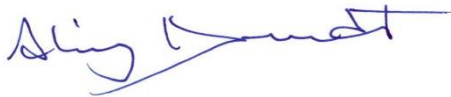
**Due to limited funds and staffing at the Anchorage SWAMC office, we will only consider applications that are fully documented and verifiable. This project is planned to run through May 31<sup>st</sup>.** Utilize your City Clerk's office for copies, current utility bills, and proof of property ownership of your rental or mortgage. You can mail the attached application form with the required documentation copies listed above to:

SWAMC  
3300 Arctic Blvd, suite 203  
Anchorage, AK 99503

Or send electronically to:  
[smarquardt@swamc.org](mailto:smarquardt@swamc.org)

SWAMC and its Board of Directors are hopeful that we will be able to send critical help to our regions where needed and are truly grateful for the work of The United Way and the Rasmuson Foundation for spearheading the AK CAN DO project and partnering with us to make a difference in Southwest Alaska communities.

Sincerely,



Shirley Marquardt, Executive Director SWAMC