



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: Jessica Fuchs
Phone: 240-499-2827
Email: Jess.Fuchs@hifmc.org

The Healthcare Initiative Foundation Invests in Local Organizations in Ongoing COVID-19 Response

The Healthcare Initiative Foundation (HIF) Awards \$30,000 to impact Montgomery County residents directly impacted by the social, physical, and economic impacts of COVID-19.

Montgomery County, MD – June 19, 2020 – The Healthcare Initiative Foundation is proud to invest in the Greater Washington Community Foundation’s ‘Neighbors in Dire Need Montgomery’ Campaign and Care For Your Health’s telehealth expansion. These two nonprofits have been dedicated to the social, economic, and physical health and wellbeing of Montgomery County residents during this historic pandemic. Now more than ever our community requires their leadership and innovation and HIF is proud to support their transformative work.

The Community Foundation’s Neighbors in Need Montgomery was initiated in 2008 in response to the economic hardships wrought by the Great Recession. And now, Neighbors in Dire Need Montgomery Campaign is poised to provide direct emergency cash assistance to #680 individuals and their households who have been directly impacted by COVID-19. This effort will complement the efforts of the Montgomery County’s Emergency Assistance Relief Program’s (EARP) investment in COVID-19 cash assistance to families. This is a public-private partnership to coordinate and prevent the duplication of resources and assistance while ensuring a deep reach into the community. HIF’s investment of \$25,000 will provide approximately \$1,000 of relief to an estimated #25 households and #100 individuals.

The Greater Washington Community Foundation is partnering with four nonprofits –Family Services, Inc., Identity, IMPACT Silver Spring, and Interfaith Works—who have existing and trusted relationships within the community and are ready to implement programming to enroll individuals and households to distribute the emergency relief grants. Through additional philanthropic partnerships, the Neighbors in Need Dire Montgomery Campaign will raise \$680,000 to support our community. Anna Hargrave, The Community Foundation’s Executive Director for Montgomery County, shares, “We are grateful for the generous support from the HIF as we launch the Neighbors in Dire Need Montgomery Campaign. Seeing the devastating impact of this public health and economic crisis, several of our past Montgomery County Philanthropists of the Year honorees and their families decided to pool their resources to offer a challenge match which will amplify the impact of HIF’s gift. Thanks to our high-

impact nonprofit partners, these dollars will be put to work quickly, helping to alleviate stress and provide stability in a time when so much is uncertain.”

Care For Your Health (C4YH) is a Montgomery County-based nonprofit committed to multicultural healthcare to the elder community, primarily within their homes. They believe that access to high-quality healthcare is a fundamental human right and that seniors thrive when they are able to age in place. While C4YH has always provided superior healthcare services to local seniors, they have expanded their homebased and telehealth model to serve adults impacted by COVID-19. During this period the number of uninsured patients they have served has increased by 370% and the total number of patients served has increased by 114%. This investment of \$5,000 will allow C4YH to extend service hours and allow for more telehealth access and follow-up for #400 patients tested for COVID-19.

Dr. Anna Maria Izquierdo-Porrera, Executive Director of C4YH, states, “During the COVID-19 pandemic many of the health disparities in the county have become painfully obvious. We have adapted our services to respond to this crisis to deliver telemedicine services; expand our home visiting program; waive age requirements to see adults that need assistance with COVID care; and expand staff hours to accommodate additional case management.” She continues, “It is with the support of HIF that we have been able to afford some of the technology upgrades necessary to deliver care during the pandemic and the expansion of staff hours to serve all those that have been referred to us for care.”

HIF supports organizations, within our geographic and focus area, that improve the quality and delivery of healthcare, expand the availability of comprehensive healthcare, build appropriate capacity in the healthcare network, and grow the healthcare workforce for Montgomery County residents. To learn more, please visit our website at www.hifmc.org and like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/hifmc.

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If you would like more information about this topic or the Healthcare Initiative Foundation’s grant priorities, please contact Jess Fuchs at Jess.Fuchs@hifmc.org or 240-499-2827.