

For Immediate Release

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United Way
of Greater Lafayette

United Way announces the launch of the Tippecanoe COVID-19 Housing & Stability Hotline in partnership with The Community Foundation of Greater Lafayette and the City of Lafayette. This community resource will connect households struggling to pay rent, mortgages, and utilities during the COVID-19 pandemic with the appropriate organizations equipped to provide aid. The hotline aims to reduce stress that local residents may experience in tracking down multiple organization without the guarantee that their situation fits the particular criteria of each organization's funders. Hotline operators will ask a series of questions, determine the best resource to direct callers to, and provide a warm connection to that resource. According to United Way, their goal is to remove obstacles and reduce the amount of time between requests for aid and delivery of support.

"The COVID-19 Hotline will be so beneficial to the citizens of Tippecanoe County affected by the pandemic", states Mayor Tony Roswarski. "From additional resources that have come to our community, it has brought together 15 different agencies with trained navigators to assist those with issues on their mortgage, rent or utilities payments. I personally want to thank Adam Murphy, with the City's Homeless and Community Outreach Program, on his work to help with the set-up of the Hotline and training of the navigators. The collaboration between the City, United Way and the agencies involved will provide the peace of mind to those in need of assistance."

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the unemployment rate in Indiana jumped from 3.0% in March to 16.9% in April. With so many Hoosiers struggling to make ends meet, Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb extended the moratorium of evictions, foreclosures, and utility shutoffs until June 30, but United Way of Greater Lafayette urges interested residents to call before this deadline. The hotline can be reached by phone or text at **765-201-0668** Monday through Friday from 8am to 6pm. With large call volume expected, callers are encouraged to leave voicemail if there is no answer. Calls will be returned within one business day in the order in which they are received. Residents may also complete an online form online by visiting **www.uwlafayette.org/housing**.

The Housing & Stability Hotline is a partnership between United Way Greater Lafayette, The Community Foundation of Greater Lafayette, The City of Lafayette, and the following partner organizations:

Area IV Agency on Aging and Community Action Programs

Bauer Family Resources

Fairfield Township Trustees

Food Finders Food Bank

HomesteadCS

Indiana Legal Services, Inc.

Lafayette Urban Ministry
Legal Aid of Tippecanoe County
LTHC Homeless Services
Mental Health America Wabash Valley Region
Northend Community Center Care Team
The Salvation Army
Tippecanoe Senior Center
Wabash Center
Wabash Valley Volunteer Attorneys
Willowstone Family Services
YWCA Greater Lafayette

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About United Way of Greater Lafayette: United Way of Greater Lafayette is on a mission to empower every person in this community to find their path to success from Cradle to Career. At United Way, we are more than fundraisers, we are the hand-raisers. We look for the community's toughest challenges and bring people together to develop long-lasting impactful solutions. We believe that everyone can play a role in impacting the community. United we win!

The Community Foundation of Greater Lafayette, established in 1970, serves the Tippecanoe County area. Its mission is to inspire, nurture, and practice philanthropy, stewardship, and leadership in the communities served. In 2019, The Community Foundation awarded \$1.7 million in grants to local nonprofit organizations and scholarship recipients. For additional information, visit www.cfglaf.org or call 765-742-9078.