



Bermuda Emergency Fund for Sustained Crisis Relief

COVID-19 Situational Update

With the launch of the Bermuda Emergency Fund and having been involved in the coordinated crisis response effort, we have Identified specific service needs and affected populations based on international essential services and protocols. The shelter-in-place regulations (15/05/2020) exacerbated the challenges faced by existing and increasingly vulnerable populations, such as:

- Poor, marginalised and economically disenfranchised
- people with high-risk health concerns
- seniors and children
- unemployed, under-employed (casual workers, P/T and temporary employees who are ineligible for unemployment benefits, PRC holders and workers in low paying jobs)

Guided by pandemic protocols in conjunction with the EMO, service providers were sought and funded to fill gaps in public services in broad sweeps, in relation to access by location, method and timing. These organisations were already positioned to deliver the identified services and had demonstrated capacity or willingness to maintain, ramp-up or transition to service a larger swath of the public. A set of nonprofits who sought funds to deliver an emergency response to pre-existing clientele also received one-time support.

This emergency response ensured that basic needs were met during crisis. However, the effects of the pandemic are anticipated to be felt for a further 3-6 months. A refined set of publicly accessible core essential services continue to be needed. These are in effect, key components of the Bermuda Islands' social safety; plugging long-standing public services that have been exacerbated by crisis. Funds will be required to maintain the delivery of these core essential services during a post-crisis relief and recovery period.

Response – Bermuda Emergency Fund for Sustained Crisis Relief

The Bermuda Emergency Fund for Sustained Crisis Relief is administered by Bermuda's Community Foundation, with its focus refined to sustain the provision of core essential services to the public.

WHO: Pre-Qualified Core Essential Service Providers

WHAT - Delivery of Services in the following areas:

- Food Security / Distribution: Prepared Meals, Grocery Vouchers, Groceries/Pantry Access
- Household Expenses Hardships- Rent, Electricity, Clean Water, Gas, Wifi/Cell Subsidies
- Unsheltered Population Housing and Supports
- Disaster Relief, Management & Quarantine Services
- Distribution of Medication (including prescription medicine subsidy) and Equipment
- Mental Health Hotline
- Personal Safety and Protection from Domestic Violence
- Additional costs for consideration in the funding design:
 - Frontline Triage & Case Management - cost resulting from enhanced service delivery
 - Data Collection, Tracking and Backbone coordination
 - Basic PPE equipment

HOW: The Foundation will seek a public/government support and private sector matches and investments (corporate, private foundation, family/ individual contributions) to support the fund.

IMPACT: This community fund has a funding goal based on financial projections required to ensure the sustained delivery of core essential services for 3-6 months. Frequent and ongoing tracking (#s served; nature of service) to account for funds and to ensure they are deployed responsibly.