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United Way of
Dickinson, Inc.

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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United Way of Dickinson Launching Local COVID-19 Community Assistance

Dickinson, ND – The United Way of Dickinson knows that some of the area’s most vulnerable individuals are at risk and having to make changes due to Coronavirus, also known as COVID-19. United Way is making strides to help our community combat the spread of COVID-19. We are working to assist partner organizations to better serve clients. We are also working to help our schools get food to children in need and to help those at risk with grocery shopping and running other necessary errands without having to leave their homes. North Dakota currently has 6 reported cases of the virus. The disease travels quickly, so United Way of Dickinson is being proactive in addressing the pandemic.

United Way is here to help. In response to the World Health Organization declaring COVID-19 a worldwide pandemic, in an effort to protect those within our vulnerable population and to prevent the spread of the virus, United Way of Dickinson has a team of volunteers at the ready to help those within our vulnerable population get groceries and other necessary supplies without needing to leave their homes. Please text or call 701-300-1094 or email unitedway@ndsupernet.com for more details.

Furthermore, United Way of Dickinson is currently running two drives to help those who are struggling with buying food, hygiene, and baby items. Please bring food and hygiene products to Menards of Dickinson. Please bring baby items to Charbonneau Car Center, AT&T off 21st St., or Daily Perks at CHI St. Alexius. These items will go to local people who are in need (including low-income individuals and the elderly).

COVID-19 Family Support Fund: With sudden wage losses our local community members face a high level of financial uncertainty. With public events, schools and workplaces shuttering as the pandemic unfolds, hourly, low-wage workers will experience unprecedented financial hardship. The problem is acute for hospitality workers, retail workers, and other hourly workers, many living paycheck to paycheck, with no clear options for recouping lost wages. Additionally, across our communities,

many children rely on federally funded school-based programs for one, two or more meals each day. As schools close, the demand for food assistance will increase for these children and their families.

In response, United Way has established the COVID-19 Family Support Fund, a dedicated resource for working families affected by the COVID-19 public health emergency. Donations made to the COVID-19 fund are being received in the forms listed below:

Checks and Money Orders made out to “United Way of Dickinson” with “COVID-19 Family Support Fund” written in the memo field can be mailed to:

United Way of Dickinson
P.O. Box 501
Dickinson, ND 58602

- Cash will be accepted in an envelope marked COVID-19 Family Support Fund. It must be taken into United Way’s office located inside US Bank at 240 2nd St West, Dickinson.

- Online donations can be made at: <https://www.paypal.me/unitedwayofdickinson> or <https://www.facebook.com/UnitedWayofDickinson/?ref=settings>

With these donations we will work to mobilize our broad network of nonprofit agencies throughout the region to provide a flexible source of cash assistance to help families weather the COVID-19 crisis. These agencies have a proven and long track record of working with United Way to administer flexible emergency assistance for families impacted by income disruption.

Additionally, the United Way of Dickinson has decided to allocate micro grants to local nonprofits to help combat the spreading of COVID-19. The grants total up to \$300 per community partner and must go toward preventing the spreading of the virus. The grant is open to any nonprofit in Stark, Dunn, and Billings counties and is available until funds are exhausted.

Applications for the micro grant can be obtained by contacting United Way of Dickinson’s executive director, Nichole De Leon, at unitedway@ndsupernet.com.

United Way of Dickinson is working closely with 2-1-1 and Southwestern District Health Unit to track information on the virus. If you have any questions regarding the outbreak, call 2-1-1 or follow this link: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/public-health-communicators-get-your-community-ready.html>

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