FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Sarah Tucci
United Way of Indian River County
(772)567-8900, ext. 111
Sarah.Tucci@UnitedWayIRC.org

United Way Grants $71,000 in Second Round of COVID-19 Community Response Funds to 6 Local Organizations

Indian River County, April 3, 2020 – United Way of Indian River County has awarded the second round of COVID-19 Community Response Fund grants to 6 locally-based organizations to supplement their ongoing programs and services. A total of $243,000 has been distributed since the fund was established.

The funds raised through this process directly aid the ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) population; 51% of Indian River County. As our neighbors struggle to make ends meet, and layoffs and furloughs sweep through our community, the demand for services from our partner agencies increases.

These organizations already serve our community and require supplementary aid to keep up with rapidly escalating needs of individuals disproportionately suffering from this crisis. The awarded organizations include the Veterans Council of IRC for veteran’s services assistance, the Senior Resource Association to continue their Meals on Wheels programming, and For the Love of Paws, pet food assistance. Three additional organizations received assistance to provide for their current client base, the Humane Society of Indian River County, H.A.L.O. Rescue, and Indian River Healthy Start Coalition.

The distribution of resources is based on UWIRC’s assessment of local needs and determined by an Unmet Needs Committee of philanthropic partners and community leaders. The Indian River Community Foundation, John’s Island Foundation, John’s Island Community Service League and Grand Harbor Outreach are among the contributors to the fund in addition to a number of individual donors. “These supporters are the backbone of this fund. We are working with the entire community to ensure our county’s most vulnerable have the support they need to weather the short and long term impacts of this crisis. We are eternally grateful for their tremendous support,” said Meredith Egan, COO of United Way of Indian River County. “As a community, we will emerge stronger from this challenge.”

United Way continues to raise funds for our neighbors who have been affected by this crisis. Join us and help fight COVID-19, by making a donation today. Please visit our website UnitedWayIRC.org or contact Tracey Segal at Tracey.Segal@UnitedWayIRC.org.

United Way of Indian River County (UWIRC) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that fights for the health, education, and financial stability of every community member. United Way works with local programs to provide resources to individuals and families in crisis today, while working year-round to improve community conditions and create lasting solutions. We are effectively building a strong foundation and improving lives by mobilizing the caring power of our community. For more information about your local United Way, please call (772) 567-8900 or visit our website, UnitedWayIRC.org.

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