



Contact:

David Little, executive vice president, North Valley Community Foundation. Email: dlittle@nvcf.org, 530-891-1150, ext. 300.

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The North Valley Community Foundation and Feather River Health Foundation are joining forces to provide grants to organizations helping at-risk populations in response to the coronavirus pandemic.

NVCF established a Coronavirus (COVID-19) Rapid Response Fund in March and the Feather River Health Foundation opened a Coronavirus COVID-19 Relief Fund as well.

NVCF and Feather River Health Foundation are working together each week to identify grant recipients, then pooling resources on grant awards.

"We have been working closely with Chuck Rough, chair of the Feather River Health Foundation, since March to ensure we weren't duplicating efforts," said David Little, executive vice president of NVCF and leader of the foundation's coronavirus task force. "We quickly learned we had the same goals – helping organizations and programs that were getting food, personal protective equipment and other resources to people who need it.

"Our hearts are in the same space. It makes abundant sense to team up and stretch our dollars through grants."

Rough emphasized that, like NVCF, the Feather River Health Foundation is focused on needs in a wide area.

"Since the Camp Fire," said Rough, "Adventist Health's Feather River Health Foundation has taken on a more expanded mission and role that not only includes remaining focused on the recovery of the Paradise community, but working with and in support of other philanthropic organizations and nonprofits that are committed to improve the physical and emotional health and well-being of individuals and families in our north state region.

"We can't think of a more highly regarded, dedicated and effective community-minded, philanthropic organization than the North Valley Community Foundation to partner with on pandemic relief in our communities and region. With the combining of our resources, I'm confident that we can help make a real difference in the lives of so many in our region who are being affected from the impacts of this health and economic crisis."

The two foundations have funded several food banks and food delivery efforts and are working on efforts to provide face shields for health care workers in Butte County.

Last week the joint effort resulted in a \$6,000 grant to the Oroville Southside Community Improvement Association for a senior food delivery program and a \$10,000 grant to several food banks coordinated by Tehama Together.

NVCF has now distributed nearly \$700,000 in grants for coronavirus relief.

Other recent grants went to:

- Butte College food pantry (\$5,000)
- Chico Meals on Wheels (\$10,000)
- Tehama Together food banks (\$10,000)
- California Indian Manpower Consortium (\$5,000)
- Butte County Community Emergency Response Team (\$1,800)
- Butte Humane Society (\$2,200)

For more information on how to donate to the Coronavirus Rapid Response Fund, see www.nvcf.org/coronavirus-covid-19-rapid-response.