

WORK OPPORTUNITIES AND RESOURCES TO KEEP NONPROFITS ORGANIZATIONS WELL (WORK NOW) ACT

The need of the people that our nonprofit workers serve each day is exploding due to the coronavirus pandemic – we’ve all seen the stories of lines at food banks, overloaded calls for housing assistance, family crises, and challenges that disabled Americans face in meeting basic needs during this challenging time.

Nonprofits are on the front lines of this crisis—but they can’t support exponentially growing needs alone. We need a major mobilization of resources and workers to help nonprofit organizations serve millions of Americans in need.

WORK NOW Employment Grants Program

- This grants program will help nonprofit organizations whose workers serve public needs that are growing due to the current crisis retain their employees, scale their service delivery and put newly unemployed men and women back to work serving their communities.
- The program will be administered by the Treasury Department and allocations will be made to states and localities—with all funding being channeled to eligible nonprofits meeting needs that have increased as a result of the pandemic and the attendant economic crisis. National and regional nonprofit organizations will be able to apply directly to the Treasury Department for grants on behalf of themselves and their chapters across the nation.
- The bulk of federal funding must be used for employee compensation—paying the wages, salaries and benefits of either existing employees or new employees. Funding may also be used to develop innovative service delivery methods to respond to the pandemic.

Background

The coronavirus pandemic has compromised the ability of our nation’s nonprofit organizations to provide necessary basic care to millions of Americans in need of help. These charitable organizations are on the front lines of this crisis – providing housing, food aid, mental health and counseling services, child care, and disability assistance to those who need it most. Meanwhile, demand for basic services has increased dramatically as people try and provide for themselves and their families during this economic crisis.

Unfortunately, many of these organizations are struggling financially at the very moment when need is soaring. Charitable giving and other revenue streams for nonprofits have declined precipitously as a result of coronavirus, forcing many to lay off workers and cut back on services. We need a major mobilization of resources so American men and women recently separated from the workforce can get to work helping our nonprofit organizations meet the massive needs of this moment.

Please contact Doug Calidas in Senator Klobuchar’s office if you have any questions. He can be reached at Doug_Calidas@klobuchar.senate.gov.