NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NONPROFITS
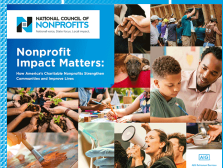### National voice. State focus. Local impact.

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The story of the nonprofit sector, told from the nonprofit perspective for the first time.

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Nonprofits and Coronavirus, COVID-19

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The novel coronavirus disease, COVID-19, is creating an evolving situation with varied impacts around the world and across the states. We will be updating this page regularly with the latest information and resources that nonprofits can use to prepare and respond.

NEW

- Analysis of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) (Pub. L. 116-136)

- Loans Available for Nonprofits in the CARES Act

- How Nonprofits Can Utilize the New Federal Laws Dealing with COVID-19, Nonprofit Quarterly, Mar. 26, 2020

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- State Public Policy Resources on COVID-19

What does this mean for nonprofits?

It depends on the nonprofit. We can expect many nonprofits will face new challenges in the weeks ahead. Nonprofits that hold large conferences, conduct in-person fundraising events, or provide training sessions may need to assess their options. Those that provide services to populations who are most at risk of acquiring the virus may be facing unique challenges in serving their communities.

What steps should nonprofits take?

- First and foremost, we all need to keep open lines of communications with our

boards, employees, volunteers, donors, and the people we serve. As part of that, we should continue to share information and resources from credible sources, such as the World Health Organization and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. And we need to be transparent about our decision-making, whether remaining open for business, adjusting hours or services, or making the tough decision to cancel events or temporarily close the doors.

- ◾ Review your sick leave policy and, if possible, enhance the flexibility of that policy to give comfort to your employees - particularly hourly employees - about taking time off.

- ◾ Review your organization's business continuity and recovery plan. You don't have one and you're not sure where to start? Our friends at Nonprofit New York have made this sample business continuity plan free for everyone to access.
  - • Go virtual: While nothing is quite like face-to-face events, rather than cancelling, many are making events virtual. The folks at Higher Logic are providing their tools for virtual event communities free for the remainder of this year.

  - • Keep in communication with your community: LiveSafe is providing its communications tool, which can help connect people with the latest credible information, as well as allow you to broadcast information to your staff or people your nonprofit needs to stay in touch with.

- ◾ Plan for working remotely. Dust off or establish policies for remote workers and telecommuting. Remote work isn't possible for all nonprofits. But for those where it is feasible, making this option available can help provide comfort to your employees that they can continue working without needing to draw down on their leave - and mandatory quarantines may make working remotely a necessity.
  - • Suddenly Working From Home? - Montana Nonprofit Association

  - • Don't forget the importance of equity. Your staff may not all have the same access to equipment or a quiet space in their home, so be sure you are doing what you can for your team.

  - • Google Hangouts Premium is free through July 1.

  - • Microsoft Teams is available for free for six months.

  - • GoToMeeting is also offering their remote work tools free for three months.

  - • Nonprofits focused on fighting COVID-19 can access three months of free Dropbox Premium.

- ◾ Take care of your organization's finances. Conversations about sustainability have turned into conversations about survivability. Steve Zimmerman of Spectrum Nonprofit Services shares some tips for looking at the dual bottom line for your organization: finances and impact. And Curtis Klotz of CLA takes a look at Financial Leadership in the Face of Impossible Choices. As many nonprofits look at their financial bottom line and the difficult decisions regarding what to do about staffing (and what that means both for your team and for the people you serve), Curtis's article identifies some options to consider. The Shoestring Agency also has some good tips on how nonprofits should approach fundraising and donor communications during the Coronavirus pandemic and financial crisis.

- ■ <u>Participate in public decision-making</u>. If applicable to your nonprofit's mission, demand a seat at the table as the local government is putting together response task forces. Insist you and your partners are at the table so the needs of the people you serve are fulfilled and you can be part of the "information movement" of gathering and sharing information. The National Council of Nonprofits, along with 34 other national nonprofits, sent a letter to Congress advocating to ensure nonprofits are included in any relief or economic stimulus package. You can also find our analysis of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act here.

- ■ <u>Be a voice for civility and healing</u>. Speak out against acts of discrimination and xenophobia you see in response to this spreading disease. Please help our communities by helping to counter discrimination. Kings County (WA) shares a number of anti-stigma resources.

- ■ <u>Take care of yourselves</u>. As we all practice social distancing to benefit physical health, we need to be cognizant of its effects on mental health. The social aspects of our lives, from the escapes of concerts and movies to the simple opportunities to chat around the water cooler, have been upended. So, it's important to practice self-care during this time. Encourage your organization to hold virtual staff meetings by video conference, rather than just by phone. Getting to see other faces is just a small gesture, but it's useful.
  The CDC has resources for managing anxiety and stress. For a little more fun, check out this list from Quartz of 15 ways to practice self-care in the time of coronavirus. And for anyone with children, the National Association of School Psychologists shares a resource on talking to kids about COVID-19.
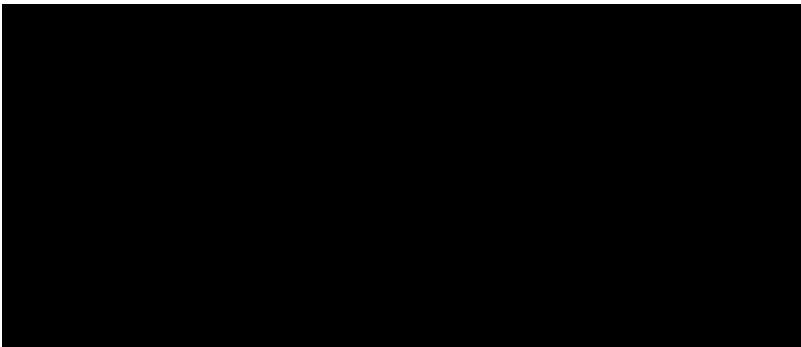
State-by-state resources

Click the map below for links to state-specific resources for nonprofits that we have been able to identify. We will be updating the map as we become aware of additional resources.

Resources for nonprofits

- ■
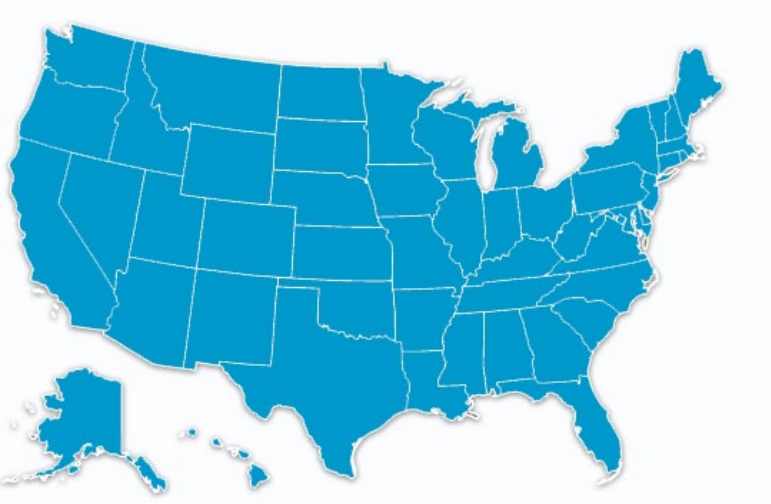
[Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)](#) - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- [Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak](#) – World Health Organization

- [State-by-state listing of relief funds created by community foundations](#)

- [How to protect yourself against COVID-19](#) (90-second video) – World Health Organization

- [Interim Guidance for Employers to Plan and Respond to Coronavirus 2019](#) - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- [Updates of COVID-19 Coronavirus and How to Respond](#) – Center for Disaster Philanthropy

- [3 Ways to Keep Your Workplace Clean During the Coronavirus](#) - SHRM

- [Coronavirus Communications Triage Kit](#) - The Communications Network

- [Frequently updating compilation of COVID-19 Fundraising Advice](#) - Bloomerang

- [Nonprofit Insurance and COVID-19](#) - Council Services Plus, part of the New York Council of Nonprofits

- [The Nonprofit Community Confronts the Coronavirus](#) - National Council of Nonprofits

- [How We Can Support Each Other and Our Communities During the Coronavirus](#) - Tiffany Gourley Carter, National Council of Nonprofits

- [Maintaining Conference Sponsorship Revenue](#) - from Partnership Professionals Network (see three blog posts at top of page)

Let us know how COVID-19 is affecting your nonprofit

We know that the spread of the coronavirus impacts different nonprofits in different ways. Is it forcing your nonprofit to cancel its biggest fundraising event of the year? Is it increasing demand for your services? Let us know so we can share these impacts with elected officials and others.

Organization

City

State

- None -

Impacts of COVID-19 on your nonprofit

What do those impacts mean for the community you serve?

Can we share your story?
Yes - and you can identify me/my nonprofit
Yes, but without identification
No
Maybe. Please contact me first.

Would you be willing to share your nonprofit's story with media?
Yes
No
Maybe, please contact me first

Contact Information (only to contact you regarding your story)

Your name

Your email address

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