The Families and Workers Fund is a collaborative philanthropic vehicle designed to support and empower workers, families, and communities that have been disproportionately impacted by the health and economic crisis caused by COVID-19. Through its two grantmaking pillars -- Direct relief and Equitable recovery -- the Fund tackles both the immediate needs of our country's most marginalized (i.e., BIPOC, women, immigrants, and others) and the long-term, structural change needed for workers and their families to not only weather this storm, but to experience a more equitable recovery and economy moving forward.

**Direct Relief**

**Overview**

With the first wave of Direct Relief funding in May, the Fund focused on national organizations supporting families and workers in the most impacted industries, such as hospitality, farming, and the care industry, with an emphasis on those who are excluded from the federal stimulus, such as undocumented workers. During the second wave in July, grantmaking focused on bolstering the efforts of national worker-led organizations providing assistance in high-need sectors (i.e., hospitality and restaurants) and regionally focused groups to reach populations where COVID-19 cases and financial need were increasing, yet federal stimulus dollars were not reaching. The Fund continued with this strategy in August with a smaller round of funding to address urgent needs, especially in Black, Hispanic, and Native American communities, following the expiration of the $600 per week unemployment benefit at the end of July.

**Grantees**

**Arizona Community Foundation** ([link](#))

Keywords: Immigrant Workers, Arizona

The Arizona Undocumented Workers Relief Fund, established by more than 20 community groups and housed at the Arizona Community Foundation, supports direct aid to people without legal status or with mixed status through a network of trusted nonprofits.

**Campaign for Southern Equality (CSE)** ([link](#))

Keywords: LGBTQ, Low-wage Workers, South

CSE is distributing cash assistance through a COVID-19 Rapid Response Grant Program to address immediate and emergent needs of LGBTQ workers in the South, with an emphasis on BIPOC, TGNC people, people with low income, and those in rural areas.

*Note: The organization received additional funding in Wave 2*
CASA Solidarity Fund (link)  
Keywords: Immigrant Workers, Pennsylvania

The CASA Solidarity Fund directly distributes cash to the immigrant and day-laborer community members who are most vulnerable in the COVID-19 pandemic. The Families and Workers Fund grant is intended specifically for their direct cash assistance in communities across Pennsylvania.

Centro de la Mujer Dominicana (link)  
Keywords: Immigrants, Women, Puerto Rico

Through their COVID direct relief program, the Centro de la Mujer Dominicana seeks to support immigrant women living in Puerto Rico as well as those facing situations of domestic violence during heightened unemployment and multiple crises facing Puerto Rico.

Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW), Mision Peniel, and Partners in Health (PIH) (link)  
Keywords: Immigrant Workers, Farmworkers, Florida

The Coalition of Immokalee Workers, Mision Peniel, and Partners in Health are working together to provide direct relief to farmworkers in Immokalee, FL in the form of grants and food distribution. CIW and PIH are supporting Mision Peniel, a deeply rooted community organization, as they provide cash to workers within a day of receiving applications.

Colwal Fund for Excluded Workers (link)  
Keywords: Immigrant Workers, Low-wage workers, Alabama

The Colwal Fund provides one-time cash grants to eligible low-wage workers in the Birmingham area who have been adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, yet excluded from government relief programs. Founded by the Adelante Alabama Worker Center, colwal means “help or support” in Q’anjob’al, one of several indigenous languages spoken by Adelante’s members.

Con Alma Health Foundation (link)  
Keywords: Immigrant Workers, New Mexico

The Con Alma Health Foundation COVID-19 Relief for Immigrant Communities in New Mexico Fund provides direct assistance to New Mexicans who are immigrants and creates awareness about the structural barriers to their well-being. The Fund prioritizes grants to immigrant-led organizations that are encouraging a culture of collaborating with other organization’s COVID-19 efforts.

Hawai’i Workers Center (link)  
Keywords: Immigrant Workers, Undocumented, Hawai’i
In response to the pandemic, the Hawai‘i Workers Center has been working alongside local labor unions and others to address the effects of the pandemic and support workers. With a combination of direct relief, organizing, community engagement, and advocacy, they aim to be the central organization serving workers in Hawai‘i focusing on undocumented, those ineligible for a visa, or non-union members, and others who are vulnerable to wage theft and exploitation. Working alongside UNITE HERE Local 5, HWC is launching the Kokua Direct Relief Fund which will give between $50-$300 to workers in need.

Hispanic Federation Emergency Assistance Fund (link)
Keywords: LGBTQ, Low-wage Workers, South

The Hispanic Federation’s Direct Cash Assistance Initiative aims to provide financial assistance to individuals and families impacted by COVID-19 for rent, mortgage, food, and other living expenses. The Hispanic Federation is also providing grants to small businesses and nonprofits to help them weather the pandemic.

Justice for Migrant Women (link)
Keywords: Farmworkers, Rural, National

Justice for Migrant Women, in partnership with Hispanics In Philanthropy, is distributing aid through the Farmworkers’ COVID-19 Pandemic Relief Fund to meet the urgent needs of the farmworker community in the United States and Puerto Rico by providing food, emergency financial support, and other essential items.

Make the Road New Jersey (link)
Keywords: Low-wage Workers, Immigrant Workers, New Jersey

Make the Road New Jersey has developed a comprehensive COVID relief operation to provide legal services, direct financial aid, and critical information to thousands of immigrant families. They have been the key source of support for low-income, immigrant workers on the front lines of the pandemic who are extra vulnerable because they are excluded from aid and face barriers to receiving healthcare.

Mission Asset Fund (MAF) (link)
Keywords: Immigrant Workers, National

Mission Asset Fund is leveraging its adaptable technology, expertise, and national network of partners and allies to provide $500 cash grants to low wage workers and immigrant families left out of federal relief.

National Day Laborer Organizing Network (NDLON) (link)
Keywords: Immigrant Workers, National

Through their Immigrant Worker Safety Net Fund, NDLON is providing immediate cash, food, and subsistence aid to migrant workers and families in its network, while continuing to expand their reach by educating, organizing, and building power among the most impacted.
National Domestic Workers Alliance (link)
Keywords: Low-wage Workers, Care Industry, National

With more than 2.5 million domestic workers in the U.S, NDWA’s Coronavirus Care Fund is providing emergency financial relief to nannies, house cleaners, and home care workers impacted by COVID-19, especially those excluded from the federal or other major relief efforts, such as immigrant, part-time, and contingent workers.

Native American Community Response Fund (link)
Keywords: Native Americans, National

The Native American Community Response Fund is working to deploy funding to urban and reservation-based Native-led organizations serving individuals and families impacted by the pandemic.

Nevada Esperanza Fund, Nevada Immigrant Coalition (NIC) (link)
Keywords: Immigrant Workers, Nevada

The Nevada Immigrant Coalition is working with the Esperanza Fund and the Nevada Community Foundation to disburse cash aid to immigrant or otherwise excluded families who are not receiving any other form of federal or state help. These families are also connected with additional wraparound services through NIC member organizations. 
*Note: The organization received additional funding in Wave 3*

One Fair Wage (link)
Keywords: Domestic Workers, National

The OFW Emergency Relief Fund is providing cash assistance to thousands of restaurant workers, car service drivers, delivery workers, personal service workers and more, who have been affected by the COVID-19 crisis.

Restaurant Opportunities Center (ROC) United (link)
Keywords: Restaurant Workers, National

ROC provides direct financial support to restaurant workers through their Restaurant Worker Disaster Relief Fund, which seeks to respond to the disproportionate impact the COVID-19 crisis continues to have on thousands of affected restaurant workers.

Stonewall Community Foundation (link)
Keywords: LGBTQ, Survival Industries, New York

Stonewall Community Foundation makes grants directly to LGBTQ people working in survival industries, who were already vulnerable before COVID-19 and have now been excluded from federal and other significant aid during the pandemic.
Taller Salud (link)
Keywords: Women, Puerto Rico

Taller Salud is a community-based feminist organization that seeks to support Puerto Rican women. In addition to COVID relief, Taller Salud works to improve women’s access to health care, reduce violence within the community, and encourage economic growth through education and activism.

The Workers Lab (link)
Keywords: Low-wage Workers, California, National

Through the Workers Fund: Covid-19 Rapid Response, the Workers Lab is providing emergency cash to workers who have lost 75% of their income because of COVID-19 and are not receiving other financial support. The fund focuses on gig workers who are typically locked out of the social safety net.

Twin Cities Hospitality Relief Program (link)
Keywords: Hospitality Workers, Minnesota

The Twin Cities Hospitality Relief Program (TCHRP) is a coalition relief effort to support front-line workers impacted by COVID-19 in the hospitality and events industry. TCHRP combines navigation services with direct emergency cash grants, enabling individuals to choose to engage in systems change work while receiving essential subsistence aid.

UNITE HERE (link)
Keywords: Hospitality Workers, National

The Unite Here Education and Support Fund is distributing targeted emergency relief to meet hospitality workers’ basic needs during this crisis, to ensure that they, and the power they’ve built, can survive.

Note: The organization received additional funding in Wave 2

Workers Defense Project (TX) (link)
Keywords: Immigrant Workers, Texas

Through the Texas Undocu Worker Emergency Fund, Workers Defense Project provides direct mutual aid financial support for immigrant, low-wage workers in Texas to help them weather the COVID-19 crisis.

Note: The organization received additional funding in Wave 2
**Equitable Recovery**

**Overview**

While Direct Relief efforts aimed to cover immediate needs, Equitable Recovery funding was targeted toward long-term, structural change. In the first wave of grantmaking, funding was directed to initiatives that successfully advanced and helped to implement critical policies that provided immediate relief to struggling workers and families, such as expanded unemployment insurance and the first-ever federal paid sick leave policy. In July, the second wave of funding focused on supporting long-term efforts toward reimagining a just economy, such as enhancing workplace health and safety, increasing federal aid to states, protecting and extending unemployment insurance, and supporting narrative change initiatives that could drive dramatic improvements in the dignity, pay, benefits, safety, and voice of low-wage workers, who are now widely considered essential to enabling much of the country to safely stay at home.

**Grantees**

**Americans for Financial Reform (AFR) (link)**

Keywords: Recession development

Americans for Financial Reform supports state and local governments as they manage the financial strains of the COVID-19 economic crisis (e.g., liquidity). AFR also works to develop and advance policies that help to financially stabilize states, cities, and communities.

**Brookings Institution (link)**

Keywords: Narrative Change, Research

The Worker-Centered Storytelling and Structural Change project seeks to expand research and storytelling around low-wage essential workers in the United States. Through written, audio, and digital products, the work aims to lift up the voices and stories of low-wage workers to both raise awareness and policy attention to their needs and create lasting structural and policy change to improve conditions for low-wage workers.

**Caring Across Generations (link)**

Keywords: Coalition Building, Narrative Change

Caring Across Generations convenes a Care Infrastructure Strategy Team of recognized national organizations, also known as the “Cohort,” to facilitate a strategic effort to coordinate cohort members and other allies to come together at key moments in national debates to demand large investments in the care infrastructure.

**Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP) (link)**

Keywords: Policy Implementation

CLASP provides direct technical assistance to cities and states working to implement new relief and stimulus policies, particularly the country’s first-ever federal paid leave policy so that workers can take paid time off if they’re sick or if they need to care for a loved one.
**Coworker.org** (link)  
**Keywords:** Worker Advocacy

As a leading peer-based workplace organizing platform designed to support workers of all industries, Coworker.org supports the rapid growth of worker advocacy campaigns for paid sick days, on-the-job protective equipment, and other immediate needs that have emerged during the COVID-19 crisis.

**Economic Analysis and Research Network (EARN)** (link)  
**Keywords:** Economic Policy, Research

EARN is a network of 60 state-level policy groups in 43 different states working on unemployment insurance, paid sick days, and other key relief policies. EARN is also a part of Caring Across Generations’ “Cohort” of national organizations working to demand large investments in the care infrastructure. In this Cohort, EARN provides expertise in economic policy and research. It is housed at the Economic Policy Institute (EPI).

**Economic Policy Institute** (link)  
**Keywords:** Policy development & implementation

The Economic Policy Institute provides critical data and in-depth analysis of the enormous economic impact of the COVID-19 crisis, assesses new policy proposals, and advocates for equitable and effective policy solutions.

**Family Values @ Work (FV@W)** (link)  
**Keywords:** Policy Implementation

Through its Opportunity Fund, Family Values @ Work is supporting a network of 27 state coalitions that use community organizing, public education, and civic engagement strategies to advance policies that increase access to paid leave, address the gaps in the federal emergency paid sick days and leave provisions, and more.

**Good Jobs First** (link)  
**Keywords:** Policy implementation

Good Jobs First created COVIDstimuluswatch.org (link), a rapid-response, deep-analysis website tracking the largest stimulus packages in U.S. history. The tracking website is part of a larger push to achieve more corporate accountability and ensure that stimulus and relief policies support workers and good jobs.

**Healthcare for America Now (HCAN)** (link)  
**Keywords:** Healthcare, Organizing, Policy Implementation

HCAN is launching a new hub, in collaboration with EARN and the Partnership for Working Families, to coordinate and support a coalition of grassroots advocacy organizations in making the case for state fiscal relief and anti-austerity measures.
**Jobs with Justice** ([link](#))

**Keywords:** Worker Advocacy

Jobs with Justice, in collaboration with NDLON, coordinates and serves as a hub for worker centers, which are scrambling to meet the urgent needs of workers across the country. The organization also facilitates' advocacy and organizing efforts for immigrant workers, workers of color, and/or low-wage workers.

**Just Capital** ([link](#))

**Keywords:** Business engagement

Just Capital promotes and tracks good business practices and stakeholder capitalism during the pandemic and recession. Their continually updated [COVID-19 Corporate Response Tracker](#) details how major employers and corporations have responded to COVID-19.

**Justice for Migrant Women** ([link](#))

**Keywords:** Narrative Change, Organizing

Justice for Migrant Women supports and raises awareness about the vital contributions that farmworkers and other workers make to the economy by leveraging their education, advocacy, and organizing platforms to fight for farmworker health, safety, and power during the pandemic.

**Main Street Alliance** ([link](#))

**Keywords:** Business engagement

Main Street Alliance is organizing to protect the small business economy, block pandemic profiteering, and set the terms for a just response and recovery to COVID-19 that saves existing small businesses while protecting the public health. The organization is also working to counter the “economy versus health” narrative through the website smallbizcovid19.com ([link](#)), among other tools.

**National Black Worker Center Project** ([link](#))

**Keywords:** Organizing, Low-wage Workers

The National Black Worker Center Project is a network of eight Black worker centers that formed in response to the ongoing jobs crisis afflicting the Black working class. Through the “We Ready” campaign, the Project engages workers in forums that train them to resolve workplace issues, improve working conditions, resolve wage theft, effectively confront sexual harassment, and improve health and safety working conditions.

**National Council for Occupational Safety and Health (COSH)** ([link](#))

**Keywords:** Worker health, safety, and power

National COSH provides technical assistance to local partners on providing trainings around and enforcing worker health and safety measures, as well as advocate for responsible re-opening of economies.
National Employment Law Project (NELP) (link)
Keywords: Policy development & implementation

Through the Workers Resiliency Agenda, NELP is leveraging its legal and policy expertise, strong partnerships with worker-centered groups, and strategic communications to win billions of dollars in federal Unemployment Insurance benefits expansions and to support the implementation and uptake of those vital benefits.

Paid Leave for All (link)
Keywords: Policy implementation

The Paid Leave for All campaign is a growing collaborative of key organizations fighting to win inclusive paid family and medical leave for all working people in the United States. Their goals are to expand the workers covered in immediate relief legislation and to pass a permanent policy.

Partnership for Working Families (link)
Keywords: Policy Implementation, State Aid

Working alongside HCAN and EARN, Partnership for Working Families supports its network of 20 city and state groups in calling for federal aid to states, inclusive and sufficient unemployment insurance overall a more responsible federal response to COVID-19 by designing and coordinating state-specific progressive revenue campaigns on tax reform.

PolicyLink (link)
Keywords: Policy Implementation

PolicyLink is creating a new coalition that aims to help city and state recovery taskforces advance a vision for an equitable economy that centers workers and families.

Return to the Heart Foundation (link)
Keywords: Narrative Change, Indigenous Women

Through community building, bridge building, storytelling and more, Return to the Heart leads efforts to support indigenous communities in managing the economic and social challenges related to COVID-19 toward long-term economic recovery.

Unite Here (link)
Keywords: State Aid, Organizing, Workplace Safety

Unite Here works to advance the health, safety, and power of hospitality workers in casinos, commercial kitchens, and other businesses, to ensure a safe return to work as the pandemic continues to ravage the United States.