

# COVID-19 Community Response

## LIVING UNITED...but apart



United Way of  
San Luis Obispo County

Dear Neighbor,

United Way of San Luis Obispo County is working hard to continue serving our community during the rapidly changing situation brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, an uncertain time for all.

As staff, we are working remotely and complying with all recommendations by the [San Luis Obispo County Health Department](#). You can continue to reach us by phone and email. Visit our website or track us on social media for updates. We are committed to continuing our operations during our [Shelter at Home Order](#) in new ways. We all need to band together... **live united, but apart**, for a few weeks, in order to slow the spread of novel Coronavirus and preserve the capacity of our critical health care systems.

We are actively working to connect people with resources:

We are working closely with our healthcare systems, governments and community service organizations to support collaboration and distribution of quality official information and services. **211 SLO County** provides up-to-date information about COVID-19. Call 211, visit our [www.211SLO.org](http://www.211SLO.org) website, or text "Coronavirus" or "Covid19" to 211-211 for information in English and Spanish.

**Volunteer Opportunity:** To help expand the capacity of our 211 call center, we are piloting a program to provide remote volunteer call handlers. To learn more and to sign up, visit [here](#).

The following **relief funds** have been set up to provide support where it is most needed. The goal of these funds is to relieve hardship for vulnerable working families and the agencies who serve them due to quarantine or disruption of income:

And as always, your **giving** to [United Way of San Luis Obispo County](#) allows us to continue providing information and bridging gaps for our community, and 211 is a critical part of our community response. Your support is more important now than ever before.

**SLO County Disaster Support Fund:** The Community Foundation San Luis Obispo County announced the creation of the [Disaster Support Fund](#).

**California United Ways COVID-19 Relief Fund**, set up by the United Ways of California, is a statewide relief fund to help those impacted by COVID-19. To learn more or to donate, click [here](#).

**COVID-19 Community Response and Recovery Fund**, created by the United Way Worldwide, is meant to complement local efforts and local funds. Please click [here](#) to donate.

In other news, we made the difficult decision last week to close down our **Free Tax Preparation Assistance and Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)** sites. We remain committed to the health and safety of our volunteers and the hardworking people they serve and will be sharing out resources and tax filing information as available. Meanwhile, if you are home with some time on your hands, consider the free file options available at [www.myfreetaxes.org](http://www.myfreetaxes.org) or at the IRS [website](#).

We're in this together. When we get through these challenging times there will be lessons and inspiration for us all. If we Live United and care for ourselves and each other we will be **stronger together**. Show compassion for your friends, neighbors, loved ones and even those you don't know. A special thanks to those of us that able to look in on our most vulnerable friends and neighbors!

Please stay healthy and be well!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rick London".

Rick London, CEO  
United Way of San Luis Obispo County