



United Way of
Benton & Franklin Counties

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: MaryAnne Wuennecke, 509-581-3945 or
mwuennecke@uwbfc.org

February 11, 2021

Local emergency food and shelter programs get a boost

Nearly \$150,000 in new FEMA grants awarded to fight hunger and homelessness.

KENNEWICK, Wash—United Way of Benton & Franklin Counties announced that local nonprofit agencies will receive \$146,732 from the latest round of Emergency Food & Shelter Program funding. The FEMA program addresses the needs of people across the country and our United Way facilitates the process for the bi-county region.

The local EFSP board allocated the funding to 15 programs at 14 local agencies. Most of the funds support food assistance, with \$116,732 awarded for the following programs:

- Critical Care Boxes (Boys & Girls Clubs of Benton & Franklin Counties): \$13,000
- St. Vincent Center Food Bank (Catholic Charities): \$2,032
- Lunch Buddies Food Distribution (Central United Protestant Church): \$2,400
- Emergency Food Grocery Cards (Columbia Basin College Foundation): \$5,000
- Opportunity Kitchen (Columbia Industries): \$12,500
- Emergency Food Assistance (Riverview Adventist Church Food Bank): \$8,000
- Family Assistance (Safe Harbor Crisis Nursery): \$11,950
- Healthy Food Access (Second Harvest): \$10,000
- Meals on Wheels (Senior Life Resources Northwest): \$13,900
- Food Assistance (Salvation Army): \$8,000
- Food Assistance (Tri-Cities Food Bank): \$12,500
- Food for Good (Women of Wisdom Tri-Cities): \$4,950
- My Friend's Place served meals (Safe Harbor Crisis Nursery): \$12,500

Additionally, Domestic Violence Services will receive \$20,000 and St. Vincent de Paul Society \$10,000 for their respective emergency shelter and support services.

“Nearly a year into the COVID-19 pandemic, the needs in our community are not slowing down,” said United Way president LoAnn Ayers. “Too many local people don’t have enough to eat or a safe place to sleep. We are happy to get this funding out where it’s most needed.”

###

About [United Way of Benton & Franklin Counties](#)

United Way of Benton & Franklin Counties improves lives and strengthens communities. We build collaborations with individuals, businesses, and nonprofits to address challenges that no one agency can solve alone to provide the building blocks of opportunity—education, income and health—that every person needs to thrive. Together, we’re solving our region’s biggest problems and creating lasting change.