

WNY COVID-19 Community Response Fund announces grants totaling \$4.5M to 74 nonprofit organizations

The Western New York COVID-19 Community Response Fund coordinated by the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo, Health Foundation for Western & Central New York, The John R. Oishei Foundation and the United Way of Buffalo & Erie County announced that it has granted \$4.5 million to 74 organizations in less than two weeks after the fund was announced.

Grants were awarded to organizations serving all eight counties of Western New York that are addressing immediate needs in the community as a result of the COVID-19 crisis in the areas of food, housing, health care, child care, mental health, transportation, and other emergency services. Grants were made to nonprofit organizations throughout WNY, including urban and rural areas, organizations of every size, and to those serving a range of populations with consideration for areas already in economic distress.

The WNY COVID-19 Community Response Fund is a collaborative effort among the region's philanthropic organizations to help essential organizations on the front lines of this community crisis with grants designed to complement public sector funds. Anyone is welcome to join the effort and donate to the fund through the website: www.WNYResponds.org.

The following nonprofit organizations received a grant from the WNY COVID-19 Community Response Fund:

- Allegany County Community Opportunities and Rural Development
- Arc of Genesee Orleans (Meals on Wheels)
- BestSelf Behavioral Health
- Boys & Girls Clubs Collaborative
- Buffalo Prenatal Perinatal Network
- Buffalo Urban League
- CAO of Western New York
- Cattaraugus and Wyoming Counties Project Head Start
- Cattaraugus Community Action
- Cattaraugus County Department of Aging (Meals on Wheels Fund)
- Cazenovia Recovery Systems
- CCNY

- Child & Family Services of Erie County
- Child Care Coalition of the Niagara Frontier
- Christ Church Community Kitchen
- City Mission Society Inc.
- Community Action of Orleans & Genesee
- Community Health Center of Buffalo
- Community Missions of Niagara Frontier Inc.
- CoNECT (Community Health Worker Network of Buffalo)
- Crisis Services
- Cuba Cultural Center
- Directions in Independent Living
- Empower (United Cerebral Palsy Association of Niagara County)
- Erie Regional Housing Development (Belle Center)
- Evergreen Health
- Every Bottom Covered
- Family Help Center
- Feed Buffalo
- FeedMore WNY
- Friends of Night People
- Genesee Orleans Ministry of Concern Inc.
- Harvest House of South Buffalo
- Health Association of Niagara County (HANCI)
- Healthy Community Alliance
- Heart, Love & Soul
- Hearts and Hands: Faith in Action Inc.
- Horizon Health Services
- Jericho Road Community Health Center
- Jewish Family Service of Buffalo & Erie County
- Journey's End Refugee Services
- Kendall Community Food Cupboard Corp.
- Learning Disabilities Association of WNY
- Life Impact (Resurrection Life Food Pantry)
- Lt. Col. Matt Urban HSC of WNY
- Metro Community Development Corp.
- Mid-Erie Mental Health Services (Endeavor Health Services)
- Native American Community Services
- Neighborhood Health Center
- Niagara Community Action Program Inc.
- Northpointe Council
- NYS Network for Youth Success
- Olmsted Center for Sight
- Open Buffalo (Seeding Resilience Initiative)
- Parkside Evangelical Lutheran Church

- PUSH Buffalo
- Restoration Society
- Safety-Net Association of Primary Care Affiliated Providers
- Save the Michaels of the World
- Say Yes Buffalo
- Spectrum Health and Human Services
- The Dale Association
- The Rural Outreach Center
- The Salvation Army – Olean Corps.
- The Salvation Army (Erie County)
- The Salvation Army (Niagara County)
- Valley Community Association
- Western New York Independent Living
- Westminster Economic Development Initiative
- YMCA Buffalo Niagara
- YMCA of the Twin Tiers
- Youth Mentoring Services
- YWCA Niagara Frontier
- YWCA Western New York

To date, the WNY COVID-19 Community Response Fund has received approximately \$5.5 million from local foundations, private sector companies, and individuals. Additional funds raised will be distributed based on evolving needs related to the pandemic. To see a full list of contributors to the Fund, visit www.WNYResponds.org.

On Monday, Buffalo Bills General Manager Brandon Beane announced he is donating \$20,000 to relief efforts and is also offering fans an opportunity to interact with him as he gears up for the 2020 NFL Draft to build awareness for the fund. The initiative, which runs until Friday, April 17, will award seven randomly selected entrants with one of seven unique Bills-themed experiences or prizes. To learn more, visit www.WNYResponds.org.

For anyone in need of assistance with information related to services available in the community, call 211. It is a referral hotline that

is staffed 24/7 and serves all eight counties of Western New York.

Reddy Bikeshare re-opens for service in Buffalo & Falls

Reddy Bikeshare, in partnership with Independent Health, announced the rollout of Reddy bikes starting for the bikeshare program's fifth season. As a key transportation provider, Reddy Bikeshare is considered an essential service under Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo's "New York State on PAUSE" executive order and will operate while taking every precaution possible amid the COVID-19 crisis.

"We are here for our community; Reddy bikes are a source of relaxation and physically distant fun to help people get through this extremely challenging time," said Jennifer White, marketing and communications director for Reddy Bikeshare. "We believe that a daily bike ride delivers a sense of peace and comfort, and acts as a healthy break from this new normal."

As an essential transportation service, Reddy Bikeshare is discounting the cost of annual passes by 98% through at least the end of April. Annual passes are now available for \$1 (normally \$55) with an additional cost of one cent per minute to ride. Anyone interested can visit reddybikeshare.com or download the Social Bicycles app to sign up.

"The world is changing moment to moment and yet our commitment to offering a healthy, active and sustainable form of transportation remains steadfast," said Mike Galligano, CEO, Shared Mobility Inc. "Our team believes we need to unite as a community to support one another in order to get through this. We will provide

this discount for everyone, and at that same time we are actively looking for ways to collaborate with delivery-related and other essential services. Sustainable transportation needs to be on the streets now more than ever."

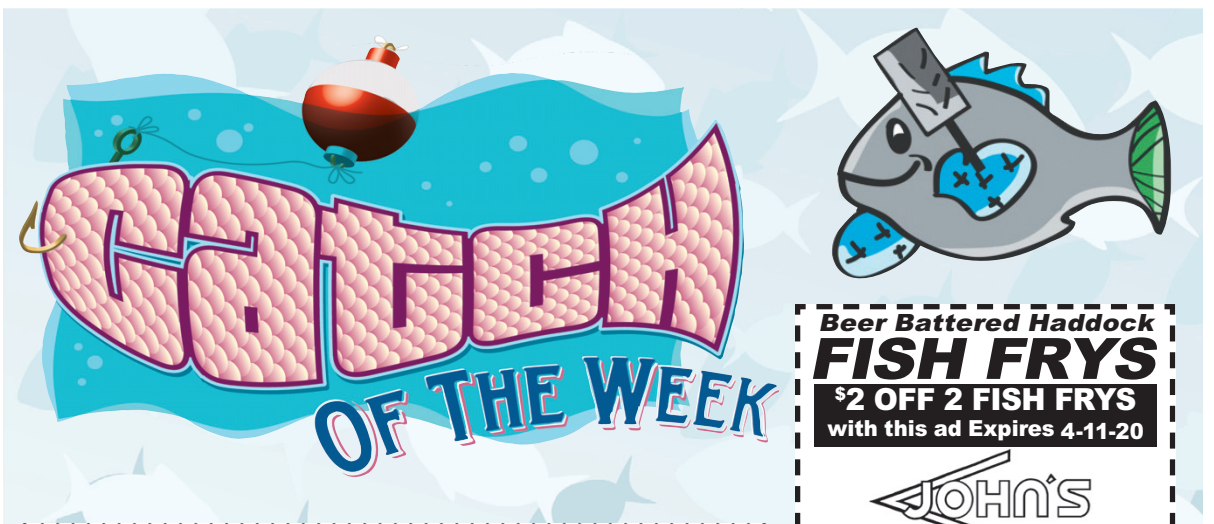
Additionally, the Reddy Bikeshare Fleet Team has increased cleaning and sanitation procedures. Frequently touched surfaces on each bike, including hand-grips, brake lever, seat and seat lever, U-locks and keypad, will undergo more rigorous cleaning and disinfecting. The Fleet Team is also wearing gloves and facial covers as members perform any maintenance.

Each Reddy bike is now equipped with a bottle of hand sanitizer for riders to use before and after their trip. Complimentary hand sanitizers are also available to the community while supplies last at stations located at Bidwell Parkway, Broadway Market, Delaware Park, as well as inside the Niagara Falls Amtrak Station. All hand sanitizers are courtesy of Independent Health.

Reddy Bikeshare and Independent Health encourage riders to do their part to stay safe and healthy by washing hands often and using hand sanitizer, wearing gloves as an added layer of protection, and to provide personal cleaning and disinfecting measures as seen fit by the rider.

For more information on prevention measures and proper cleaning and disinfecting strategies, Reddy Bikeshare and Independent Health encourage riders to visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at cdc.gov or the World Health Organization website at who.int.

For any additional information, community members can contact White at jen@reddybikeshare.com or 407-7474. For tips on biking, visit gobikebuffalo.org.



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