Vitalyst Health Foundation

Response and Resources for those impacted by the Coronavirus/COVID19

March 16, 2020

Vitalyst Health Foundation’s mission is to connect, support, and inform efforts to improve the health of individuals and communities in Arizona. In response to the ongoing outbreak of the respiratory illness called Coronavirus or COVID19, we provide these resources to keep you and our communities healthy.

Access to Care and Coverage

- Practice social distancing and follow health guidance from the CDC and the Arizona DHS.
- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Before going to a doctor’s office, call ahead and tell them about your symptoms.
- EMS and 911 operators should screen all calls to identify individuals with fever or symptoms and take appropriate precautions.

Health Community Design

- All Arizona schools are closed until March 27th; however, many intend to continue meal services programs for children and rules have been waived to allow non-congregate meal service.
- Additional resources regarding food access can be obtained through community partners including Pinnacle Prevention and the Arizona Food Bank Network.
- The Arizona Healthy Communities conference originally scheduled for March 26th is postponed.

Community Capacity Building

- Vitalyst is working with Arizona’s philanthropic sector to support community-based leaders, organizations, and coalitions who are responding and impacted by the spread of COVID19, including promoting the Arizona Community Foundation’s Community Response Fund and the Community Foundation for Southern Arizona’s Emergency Relief Fund.
- Vitalyst will continue to offer capacity-building resources as Technical Assistance Partnership (TAP) Tools.
- In order to help best determine support needed for Arizona nonprofits, please take this Alliance of Arizona Nonprofits survey on how your nonprofit as an employer, convener, and service provider is being impacted.
- Vitalyst is not closing our offices at this time including access to our Board and Conference Rooms, and welcome use of our video-conferencing capabilities or other remote collaboration software to partners.
- Many articles have been posted on What Nonprofits Need to Know as well as Fundraising in Challenging Times.

Transformative Grantmaking

- Vitalyst continues to be flexible with grantees on deliverables as they do transformative work in their communities and is any open to collaborative partners to adjust as needed.

Civic Health

- The 2020 Census is happening now, and residents can still respond online, by phone, or by mail.
- The Census Bureau is monitoring the COVID19 situation and adjusting some operations to ensure all residents are counted, though it has never been easier to respond on your own all without having to meet a Census taker.
- Research continues for the 2020 Arizona Town Hall on “Creating Vibrant Communities” and outreach programs have been cancelled.

Vitalyst is committed to continuing the task of improving community well-being. Don’t hesitate to connect with our staff at (602) 385-6500 or at info@vitalysthealth.org.