BACKGROUND

The COVID-19 pandemic has dramatically increased and shifted housing needs in Seattle and King County. In order to meet those needs, we are adapting the Home Base program to provide rental assistance to people in need.

Because of the economic impacts of COVID-19 and social distancing, people in our community who were already vulnerable have felt an increased impact as hours and jobs have been cut. Further, many people who were previously able to make ends meet are now finding themselves in need of help.

Every day, we’re learning of new and different needs in the community because of COVID-19. As we adapt to meet those needs, the Home Base program is evolving.

United Way and our partners have worked quickly to provide rental assistance to people impacted financially by COVID-19.

While the Home Base program previously fought homelessness by preventing evictions, evictions have been temporarily banned in the community. This will keep thousands of families housed and is a necessary move during this crisis. But when the crisis passes, back-rent will still be due.

Thanks to support through the Community Relief Fund and others, Home Base will provide emergency rental assistance so people don’t fall behind and end up with a mountain of debt to repay after the COVID-19 crisis passes.

OPPORTUNITY

We know that stopping the pipeline into homelessness is critical to fighting our community’s current crisis. When people have access to emergency funds and representation, we all win—tenants stay in their homes, landlords receive their due and there are fewer people living on the streets. Our goal is to reduce the number of unsheltered people by 50%. With your support, we can help families avert crisis and stay in their homes and come closer to achieving our goal!

For more information on this or any investment opportunity, please contact your Corporate Relations Officer or James Modie at 206.461.4515 or jmodie@uwkc.org.