

Summary of COVID-19 related needs from multiple agencies and sectors

**Revised from June 8 document [available here](#).*

The initial version of this document was shared in response to requests from philanthropic organizations about needs across NC. The information reflects input from a range of government and nonprofit agencies and service providers. It is not intended to be comprehensive. The document will be updated for as long as deemed useful.

If you would like to share information for inclusion in a future summary of needs, please contact Eliza Edwards, Strategic Partnerships Policy Analyst, eliza.edwards@osbm.nc.gov or Jenni Owen, Director of Strategic Partnerships, jenni.owen@osbm.nc.gov.

Needs are not listed in a particular order and vary in type and scope. **New items are listed with green titles**. When possible, a contact person is listed.

Note: These are not recommendations but intended to inform philanthropy organizations and others making funding decisions.

The following are specific organization needs referred to Strategic Partnerships via the NC Commission on Volunteerism and Community service. Information current as of 6/22/2020.

The Salvation Army of Washington, NC

The Salvation Army of Washington, NC has served more than 14,000 meals to more than 3,200 people across six counties (Beaufort, Bertie, Hyde, Martin, Tyrrell and Washington) in the wake of COVID. **The organization's most pressing need is for a walk-in industrial freezer (at cost of \$7,500) in order to keep up with feeding needs.**

With additional financial support, the Salvation Army of Washington, NC could cover additional community needs such as rent/mortgage support, utilities, medicine, and food. Donations have dried up since the beginning of COVID-19, and the Washington Salvation Army branch was not able to apply for PPP assistance.

POC: Lt. Karl Bush, Commanding Officer/Pastor, Salvation Army of Washington, NC, karl.bush@uss.salvationarmy.org, 252-721-8150

Carteret County Long Term Recovery Alliance

The [Carteret Long Term Recovery Alliance](#) (CLTRA) provides assistance to survivors who sustained damage or loss as a result of a disaster affecting the Carteret County area. In addition to helping residents affected by Hurricanes Matthew and Florence, CLTRA is supporting the community response to COVID-19 by providing individuals and families assistance with food,

rent, and utilities. Clients are part of a case management system with needs scores based on urgency and other factors. CLTRA is currently serving between 600-650 individuals. The average cost of rent and utilities is \$1,150/household. CLTRA seeks \$200,000 in financial support but any amount of funds will help with CLTRA's efforts to continue providing critical services.

CLTRA anticipates this need will last well into 2021, as families face the combined challenges of hurricane recovery and the effects of the pandemic.

POC: Rev. Robbie Phillips, Disaster Recovery Director, Carteret Long Term Recovery Alliance, director.cltra@gmail.com, 252-723-2528

Halifax County Schools Food Distribution

Halifax County Schools (HCS) continues to distribute food to students and families two days each week (nearly 4,000 trays of food to students weekly). **HCS is in immediate need of resources (financial or non-perishable food donations) to continue providing this service through the summer or until schools re-open.** Financial contributions will be used to cover fuel costs and purchase food resources.

POC: Rose B. Lewis, Aging Program Coordinator, Halifax County, battler@halifaxnc.com, 252-583-1688 ext. 2284

Churches Outreach Network

The [Churches Outreach Network](#), in partnership with the United Way and local food banks, delivers food, hot meals, and cleaning supplies to Beaufort, Martin, and Pitt Counties. The Network is experiencing increased demand due to COVID-19 and seeks additional financial support to continue its work. Anticipated costs:

Hot meals: \$1,550/wk

Food boxes: \$3,000/wk

Cleaning supplies: \$50/wk

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Total anticipated need: \$4,600/wk

POC: Rev. Rodney Coles of Churches Outreach Network, rodneycon2007@gmail.com, 252-717-9600

Washington Outreach Ministry

Washington Outreach Ministry (WOM) is the largest emergency food pantry in Cleveland County, where more than half of the residents recently reported challenges related to food insecurity and poverty. The organization serves more than 1,000 families (3,000+ people) per month.

Washington Outreach Ministry is seeking \$5,000 for a mobile food pantry to deliver and distribute food to residents in the most rural parts of the community (many people cannot travel to the Ministry's location).

The organization anticipates increased need during the summer months, as schools are closed and summer camps that typically help feed children are closed due to COVID-19. With additional funding, WOM can more than double the number of people it serves, including local children.

POC: Rev. Frances R. Webber, Executive Director, Washington Outreach Ministry, lwebber14@carolina.rr.com, 704-477-8358

Episcopal Farmworker Ministry: Emergency Fund for Latino Agricultural Workers

The Episcopal Farmworker Ministry (EFWM) is experiencing additional demand for its services due to COVID-19. The Latinx community, particularly agricultural workers, has been disproportionately affected by the pandemic. Many of these individuals have lost jobs and wages and are not eligible for unemployment or federal CARES Act stimulus payments. Multi-family and multi-generational homes have been hit the hardest.

EFWM is focusing on providing essential services during the crisis. They provide 2 food distributions every month, serving approximately 230-260 households at each event. They also deliver aid to migrant farmworker camps (from 20 to 300 employees) once or twice a week. These deliveries include food, face masks, hygiene and cleaning items, and information about the pandemic and available services at EFWM and other agencies. EFWM also provides mental health and immigration services to the community, which have continued via Zoom, WhatsApp and phone calls.

EFWM created a COVID-19 Emergency Fund to provide aid to agricultural workers affected by the crisis due to job loss or illness. With additional financial support, EFWM can meet the needs of more families in the community.

POC: Lariza Garzon, Executive Director, Episcopal Farmworker Ministry, lariza@efwm.org, 919-805-1607

Manna Resources

Manna Resources is a community-oriented nonprofit whose primary goal is to increase accessibility of healthy foods to rural, marginalized areas and communities of Halifax County and surrounding counties (identified as food deserts). Manna collects healthy foods and produce from farmers, produce companies, schools and community college gardens, etc. to deliver into rural communities on a 7x14 mobile unit.

For the past 4 years, Manna Resources has been partnering with municipalities, senior and youth organizations and identifying pop up sites for distribution, increasing the accessibility of healthy foods and produce for marginalized areas. On average, Manna Resources serves

between 100 and 275 households weekly, depending on the site, demand and days scheduled. COVID-19 has increased the demand for Manna's resources and services.

Manna Resources seeks assistance with transportation costs (fuel). This help will enhance Manna's ability to provide these services on a larger scale. Costs below reflect average mileage in a given week (some weeks are more, and some weeks are less). For example, in the current environment, Manna has covered closer to 1,000 miles each week.

Annual budget (using state rate gas mileage)

June – Nov. (peak season): 500 miles/week x 26 weeks = 13000 miles @ 57.5c/mile = \$7475.00

Dec. – May (low season): 200 miles/week x 26 weeks = 5200 miles @ 57.5c/mile = \$2990.00

Annual mileage assistance budget **\$10,465.00**

POC: Vanessa Fields, CEO, Manna Resources, fields6795@gmail.com, 252-907-3785

The following are needs referred to Strategic Partnerships via state agencies.

BAND-NC: Digital inclusion mini-grants

COVID-19 is exposing the digital divide in North Carolina and its consequences for everyone. Students and adults who don't have access to the internet, don't have a computer or laptop, or don't know how to use them - for education, work, health or connection - are at an impossible disadvantage.

Digital Inclusion – creating opportunities for everyone to access and be able to use affordable internet and devices – is more important than ever.

In response to this immediate need, the Institute for Emerging Issues at NC State (IEI) in partnership with the Broadband Infrastructure Office at the NC Department of Information Technology, and with principal support from the John M. Belk Endowment, is addressing the digital divide across NC through a new program called "Building a New Digital Economy" (BAND NC). **BAND NC will provide rapid-response community innovation mini grants to communities across the state.**

This fall, grantees will be invited to join technical assistance workshops to build county-wide digital inclusion plans. A second round of funding to support the implementation of these plans will be available in Spring 2021. These \$5,000 mini-grants are available to fund local digital inclusion projects to meet unmet community needs. This includes access to the Internet, a device that meets the needs of residents, and the knowhow to use it.

To date, the partners have raised \$300,000 from several partners and seek to raise an additional \$130,000 to increase the scope and impact of the program.

POC: Amy Huffman, Digital Inclusion and Policy Manager, Broadband Infrastructure Office,
amy.huffman@nc.gov

School-Aged Emergency Child Care During COVID-19

According to data reported to NCDHHS and NCDPI there are at least 70 sites that have operated during the COVID-19 school closure to provide emergency child care for school-aged (5-12 years old) children of essential workers. 32 are at YMCAs, 5 at Boys and Girls Clubs, 8 at public school sites, and 25 at other community child care sites. Please contact Kristen Guillory (contact info below) for a list of these sites. These sites were provided this state guidance for operation: <https://files.nc.gov/ncdhhs/documents/files/covid-19/3.18.20-Joint-Guidance-to-Superintendents-FINAL.pdf>.

These sites have not received any state financial assistance. They were not eligible for the state financial assistance provided to licensed child care centers providing emergency care because legal restrictions prevent NCDHHS from utilizing the funds for providers not licensed by NCDHHS. Financial support for licensed child care provided by NCDHHS includes bonus payments for child care employees, ongoing child care subsidy payments, and operational grants. Some of these 70 sites inquired about financial support but were told that they were not eligible.

Financial assistance for these sites would provide recognition for their efforts to serve essential workers with child care during the emergency school closure and meet community needs. In addition, funding could recognize the efforts of the staff to provide emergency care. Funding could help the sites continue to operate safely over the summer months. One suggested funding approach is to provide bonus payments for their employees, similar to the bonus payments provided to employees in licensed child care programs. Another approach is to provide operational grants based on need that may help them continue to operate safely. The reported data does not currently provide a detailed account of the sites' funding needs and it varies across the sites, so additional communication with the sites and additional information is required.

POC: Kristen Guillory, Policy Advisor, Office of Governor Roy Cooper, Kristen.guillory@nc.gov.

Department of Public Safety

A specific need of the Department of Public Safety (DPS) is for 55 Spark Room Kits to facilitate virtual Correction Officer Pre-Basic and Basic Training and to resume Annual In-Service functionality. Each kit costs \$10,720.14.

Due to COVID-19, many of the Department's community college and other partners have closed, limiting access to traditional training locations and causing delays in the training schedule. By modifying the way training is delivered by utilizing telepresence technology, DPS can train staff more quickly, thereby improving staffing levels at prisons. Spark Room Kits will have value, use, and impact beyond COVID-19 by allowing DPS greater flexibility to hold significant portions of training on-site. This has positive implications today and in the future for

DPS, prison staff, and individuals who are incarcerated. For reference, in 2019, DPS delivered new employee basic training to approximately 1,900 prisons staff.

Funds are needed to cover health care costs for individuals who have been transitioned from prison to the community under extended limits of confinement (ELC) due to COVID-19. ELC offenders continue serving their sentence under the supervision of community corrections officers. The earlier-than-anticipated transfer to the community presents challenges in establishing medical care in the community.

Funding is needed for costs such as copays, prescriptions, and some medical assistive devices (e.g., walkers, oxygen tanks, oxygen concentrators). The estimated cost per individual per month averages \$200 - \$300 unless they require a specialist or advanced services such as x-rays. As of 6/8/2020, approximately 285 offenders have been granted extended limits of confinement.

The North Carolina Formerly Incarcerated Transition (NC FIT) program is coordinating care but does not have adequate funding to cover these individuals.

POC: Tracy Little, Deputy Secretary, Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice, NC Dept. of Public Safety, tracy.little@ncdps.gov.

Bus Wi-Fi Initiative

In partnership with AT&T, the Duke Energy Foundation, and Google, the Governor's Office and NC Department of Information Technology (NCDIT) have launched an initiative to provide wi-fi hot spot devices for school buses around the state. Buses will travel to underserved areas in school districts and park in designated locations, such as a school nutrition meal distribution site or grocery store, so students can use this temporary access to turn in assignments, download materials and connect with teachers. The drive-up wi-fi access will also be available for all residents in the communities to use to connect to healthcare providers, apply for unemployment, and access other critical information and services while exercising appropriate social distancing precautions. More info on the initiative is in the [May 6 press release](#) from the Governor's Office.

AT&T, the Duke Energy Foundation, and Google have contributed \$70,000 to the initiative, which will fund up to 280 bus wi-fi hot spot devices. Forty school districts across 38 counties have signed on to participate in the initiative, collectively accepting 198 bus wi-fi hot spot devices.

When the initiative was launched, the target was to purchase and distribute at least 400 bus wi-fi hot spot devices to school districts across the state (although, districts could probably use more than 400 devices). NCDIT and the NC Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) have ranked all 100 counties based on the number of households and students without broadband internet access. NCDIT and NCDPI have been contacting counties for the initiative, starting with the highest-needs school districts first. Thirty-six counties have not yet been contacted about participating. **The next 10 counties to be contacted based on need are Caldwell, Davie, Henderson, Hoke, Iredell, Lincoln, Moore, Rowan, Stanly, and Transylvania. Based on the**

funding contributed so far, to reach the target of 400 bus wi-fi hot spot devices, the initiative needs an additional \$30,000 to purchase 120 more devices.

POC: Geoff Coltrane, Senior Education Advisor, Office of Governor Cooper, Geoff.coltrane@nc.gov

Purchasing Computers or Other Electronic Devices

Based on the Digital Learning and Media Inventory conducted regularly by NCDPI, K-12 public schools around the state need approximately 300,000 computers to ensure that every K-12 student has a school-issued device. Data from NCDPI's Remote Learning Survey conducted at the end of March 2020 found that 92,000 K-12 students either do not have a school-issued or personal computer or device to access remote learning opportunities from home.

On May 4, Governor Cooper signed into law House Bill 1043, which will provide \$30 million in Coronavirus Relief Funds from the CARES Act to school districts to purchase computers or other electronic devices for students. It is unclear exactly how many devices that initial investment will provide, but at an average cost of around \$300 for a Google Chromebook, that initial investment may purchase up to 100,000 devices. **To meet the need of every student having a school-issued device for remote learning, there is a need for an additional 200,000 devices.**

POC: Geoff Coltrane, Senior Education Advisor, Office of Governor Cooper, Geoff.coltrane@nc.gov

Other Community Resources

North Carolina Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (NC VOAD)

The NC Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service sent a survey to NC [Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster](#) (NC VOAD) requesting information on their needs related to COVID-19. NC VOAD collaborates with local, regional, and national partners to coordinate disaster relief, response, and recovery efforts in times of disaster. [List of NC VOAD members](#).

Specific needs include:

- Commercial freezers (multiple requests)
- Non-perishable food items (or funding/gift cards to purchase these items)
- Funding to help with gas, rent and utility payments

POC: For more information on a specific need, contact Beth Hardison, NC Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service, beth.hardison@nc.gov.

North Carolina Resilience & Learning Project, Public School Forum of North Carolina

Website: <https://www.ncforum.org/resilience/> [ncforum.org]

The Public School Forum of North Carolina launched the NC Resilience & Learning Project in 2017. The program emerged from the Public School Forum's Study Group XVI on Expanding Educational Opportunity in NC that examined the high prevalence of traumatic experiences in childhood, particularly among students living in poverty, and how that affects educational outcomes. The Project is modeled on the work of pioneers in the field of childhood trauma/Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and its impact on student learning that have achieved early success creating and implementing trauma-informed instructional practices in schools. Since COVID-19 and school closures, we have added and shifted components of our model to include specific training content and consultation conversations related to the impacts of the global pandemic, sudden school closures, trauma-informed strategies that can be done virtually, and planning for creating both physically and emotionally safe learning environments when schools do reopen.

The goals of the Project are to increase awareness among educators of the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) on student learning; to improve school climate by creating a trauma-informed environment; to improve the approach of educators and school communities to student discipline, particularly for high-need students; to improve the coordination of services among schools and other school-based actors; and to mitigate the impact of ACEs on student learning and behavior by helping educators know how to build student self-regulation skills and resiliency within inclusive learning environments.

The underlying implementation of the Project includes three core components: (1) creation of a Resilience Team, a core group of staff who lead and champion the initiative; (2) training for all school staff, with enhanced training for the Resilience Team; and (3) intensive coaching across the school year to support trauma-informed strategy implementation. Additionally, the Project partners with Duke's Center for Child and Family Policy for data collection and evaluation.

Since the Project's pilot year, some level of training and/or coaching has been conducted in 23 districts across the state, mostly in eastern NC. In addition to the full model of implementation described above, there are different levels of training and consultation that can be provided. Below outlines the cost structure for each level - ***all of our training and coaching can now be provided virtually as well through webinars, our online course, and Zoom consultation calls.***

The Forum is seeking financial support to help expand the Project knowing that creating trauma-informed schools is more important now than ever before. A number of schools and districts continue to express interest in a Project partnership that we are not able to serve without additional funds. The greatest need for financial support is with the third bullet with the full Project model through sponsorship for new districts to allow expansion to additional schools.

- Half or full day training: \$500/\$1,000
- Customized training or online course paired with a series of follow-up consultation: \$1,500-\$2,500
- Full Project model (described above) with a year of intensive training and coaching provided by an assigned school coach: all current schools receiving this model are grant

funded - depending on location/travel and number of schools per district, the cost ranges from \$10,000 to \$15,000 per school

POC: Elizabeth DeKonty, Project director, Public School Forum, edekonty@ncforum.org to learn more.