

100 + People Who Care – Grinnell Nominations for the 2nd Quarter, 2020

The nominated entities (in alphabetical order) are:

CoSI (Community Support for Immigrants)

CoSI's mission is to help smooth the way for new lowans in our community. Imagine struggling through the fear of a pandemic when language and culture raise huge barriers. Immigrants are keeping America alive and fed as a nation suffers, and yet so many can't benefit from the relief efforts that have been presented so far.

Many of our community's newest residents are employed in manufacturing companies, restaurants, and other service companies. Lost employment, food insecurity, financial loss, and physical, workplace safety are major concerns.

CoSI is requesting funds that will be earmarked to help protect those who are working (face masks, hand sanitizers, etc.), to help secure culturally appropriate food supplies, and to supplement basic needs for those who are being affected in a disproportionate way.

Donations are fully tax deductible.

Write checks payable to: "First Presbyterian Church – CoSI"
Mail Checks to: First Presbyterian Church
1025 5th Ave.
Grinnell, IA 50112

Grinnell Area Chamber of Commerce – Small Business Relief Fund

In the early days of the COVID pandemic (mid-March), the Grinnell Area Chamber of Commerce proactively established a Small Business Relief Fund to offer grants to the small businesses in our community that are trying to survive the economic impact of the pandemic. To date, approximately \$ 75,000 has been raised for and disbursed from this fund, but the initial group of applications totaled \$ 96,000! Grants range from \$ 500 to \$2,500. The grants help cover the costs of doing business – rent, utilities, and payroll. They do not cover the loss of business revenue. Chamber President, Rachael Kinnick, states, "the business owners have been extremely grateful for any amount they're given... but, we simply don't have enough dollars..." (The nominator suggests 100 + members split contributions between this and MICA's Food Pantry.)

Donations are fully tax deductible.

Write checks payable to: "Grinnell Area Chamber of Commerce – Small Business Relief"
Mail Checks to: Grinnell Area Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 538
Grinnell, IA 50112

Grinnell Food Coalition

COVID-19 is impacting food security for a number of families in our community! Many Grinnell residents who have never before depended on outside support to meet basic needs are having to seek food assistance. A broad "food coalition" is seeking to coordinate and supplement programs, so all needs are met. As of April 15, a total of 322 Grinnell households were being served. The Coalition embraces and directs people to: Blessed Community Meal, Fareway's "Double-Up Food Bucks" program, Farmer's Market, Grinnell Giving Gardens, Grinnell School District food line, Local Foods

Connection, Meals-On-Wheels, MICA Food Pantry, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and the Montezuma Food Pantry. Supplemental food vouchers are being distributed through the school's curbside meal line, and through the Blessed Community Meal curbside pick-up program. Two \$ 10 food vouchers to local grocers are distributed to recipient families, with effort being made to identify additional families, as their situations deteriorate.

The Local Foods Connection is the fiscal agent. Donations are fully tax deductible.

Write checks payable to: "Local Foods Connection – COVID-19 Response"

Mail checks to: Local Foods Connection
P.O. Box 719
Grinnell, IA 50112

Grinnell Regional Medical Center (GRMC) – COVID-19 Relief Fund

The GRMC Foundation has established a COVID-19 Relief Fund to provide resources for doctors, nurses and other healthcare workers to meet the challenges presented by COVID-19. The fund is intended to be very flexible, to meet needs as they develop and are identified. Some examples of how the fund can be used include;

- Supplies/equipment, specifically needed to address the COVID-19 pandemic
- Employee wellness and emotional support
- Employee crisis fund
- Patient/family support

Donations are fully tax deductible.

Write checks payable to: "GRMC Foundation – COVID 19 Relief Fund"

Mail checks to: GRMC Foundation
Office of Development
210 4th Ave.
Grinnell, IA 50112

Online donations to: <https://www.unitypoint.org/grinnell/crisis-support.aspx>

LINK Grinnell

LINK Grinnell is a new 501(c)3 organization, formed last year to support children and families in our community. It began providing childcare for children of essential employees on April 6th. This effort was developed in collaboration with local and county emergency management officials and other community partners.

The program is licensed by DHS, and is able to serve children, ages 2 – 12, at no cost to the families (donations are accepted). Link has received approval for 7 sites for children of essential workers, with each site allowed to serve 8 children. As of April 17, LINK had 12 children enrolled in the program. The cost to operate the program is \$ 3100 per week for the first site, and \$ 1230 per week for each additional site.

Donations are fully tax deductible.

Write checks payable to: "LINK Grinnell – Essential Child Care"

Mail checks to: LINK Grinnell
Attn: Chad Nath, Director
P.O. Box 284
Grinnell, IA 50112

Mid-Iowa Community Action (MICA) Food Pantry

The MICA Food Pantry primarily serves Poweshiek County. It is a “choice pantry,” meaning users are able to choose the items they need/want within limits established by the Pantry, including family size.

MICA is able to purchase products through the Iowa Food Bank and its affiliate, the Northeast Iowa Food Bank. Typical items available are produce, cereal, peanut butter, frozen meat, tuna and milk. The Pantry relies on volunteers to help with day to day operations. As users qualify for other services, staff and volunteers assist them with the processes involved. (The nominator suggests 100 + members split contributions between this and the Chamber’s Small Business Relief Fund.)

Donations are fully tax deductible.

Write checks payable to: “Poweshiek County MICA Food Pantry”

Mail checks to: Poweshiek County MICA
609 4th Avenue
Grinnell, IA 50112

Mid Iowa Community Action (MICA) Rent Assistance

Families struggling to “make ends meet” during the pandemic are experiencing crises in meeting rent payments. MICA works collaboratively with the Grinnell Ministerial Association to offer \$ 50 rent vouchers to help meet this need. The Ministerial Association also struggles to meet the demands on its limited resources.

The Ministerial Association, while certainly a charitable entity, is not separately chartered as a 501(c)3 organization. Please consult your tax advisor regarding tax deductibility.

Write checks payable to: “Grinnell Ministerial Association – Rent”

Mail checks to: Poweshiek County MICA
609 4th Avenue
Grinnell, IA 50112