



## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is the purpose of the Fund?

United Way of the Southern Tier seeks to address the immediate need for expansion of temporary learning spaces that provide supervised care, and promote school attendance and learning on days when students cannot be in the classroom. Changes to school-day structure because of COVID-19 threaten to exacerbate pupil absenteeism while undermining equitable access to public education. United Way is committed to supporting efforts to encourage learning both in and out of the traditional school classroom. The Fund will support expanded, supervised, safe, socially-distanced learning spaces for children and youth during their virtual learning sessions, as well as before and after school, so the childcare needs of working parents are met.

### What are the Fund's priorities?

United Way of the Southern Tier invites proposals that expand opportunities for temporary, virtual learning spaces for school-age children in Chemung and Steuben counties. Proposals must:

1. Expand existing capacity or establish alternative options for temporary, supervised distance learning and child care.
2. Have projects in place that will be operational soon after funding is awarded.
3. Focus on immediate response.
4. Serve Chemung or Steuben counties.

### What are examples of eligible expenses?

Examples of eligible expenses for immediate expansion of temporary learning space include, but are not limited to: PPE; internet; cleaning products; liability insurance; rental and utilities for alternative space, etc.

### What is the eligibility criteria to receive a grant?

Only childcare, youth-serving or similar organizations may apply for grants. Typically, public taxing authorities are not eligible to apply. We are not able to fund individuals.

### I'm a working parent who needs help finding childcare for my school-age children. What do I do?

Families who are seeking information on out-of-school care should call the Chemung County Child Care Council, 607-734-3941, or Child Care Aware® of Steuben & Schuyler, 607-776-2126, or the 2-1-1 Helpline.

### Is there a geographic area of focus for the Fund?

Yes. Organizations must be located and providing services in one of these New York counties to receive a grant from the Fund: Chemung and/or Steuben.

### What size grants will the Fund make?

Award amounts will vary; applicants are encouraged to apply for grants from \$1,000 up to \$15,000. Call United Way of the Southern Tier at 607-377-5828 for further guidance.



## **What is the grantee selection process?**

United Way of the Southern Tier's Board Officers will serve as the panel for application review and approval.

## **What is the grant timeline?**

- Applications will be accepted beginning Sept. 1, 2020. Deadline to apply is Sept. 15, 2020.
- Awards will be announced Sept. 24, 2020.
- Electronic transfer of funds will occur no later than Sept. 30, 2020.
- Reporting will be required by March 10, 2021.
- This cycle may reopen if funds remain after applications are reviewed.

## **Who will process the grants (send the funds out to organizations)?**

United Way of the Southern Tier will administer the grants.

## **How can I find out which organizations have been supported?**

Information about grant awards will be shared on United Way of the Southern Tier's website, [www.uwst.org](http://www.uwst.org), and on social media. We hope this transparency will help the community navigate available resources.

## **Who is making the Fund possible?**

The generous donors to United Way of the Southern Tier and its Board of Directors.

## **I want to support United Way of the Southern Tier. How can I do that?**

[Click here](#) to contribute online or visit [www.uwst.org/donate](http://www.uwst.org/donate).

## **If you would prefer to donate by check, please send it to:**

United Way of the Southern Tier  
P.O. Box 1408  
Corning, NY 14830

## **For more information on the Fund, please contact:**

Stephen M. Hughes, President and CEO, United Way of the Southern Tier  
[shughes@uwst.org](mailto:shughes@uwst.org)  
607.377.5828

## **For technical assistance on grant process, please contact:**

Barbara Hubbell, Senior Director of Strategic Initiatives  
[bhubbell@uwst.org](mailto:bhubbell@uwst.org)  
607.377.5833

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