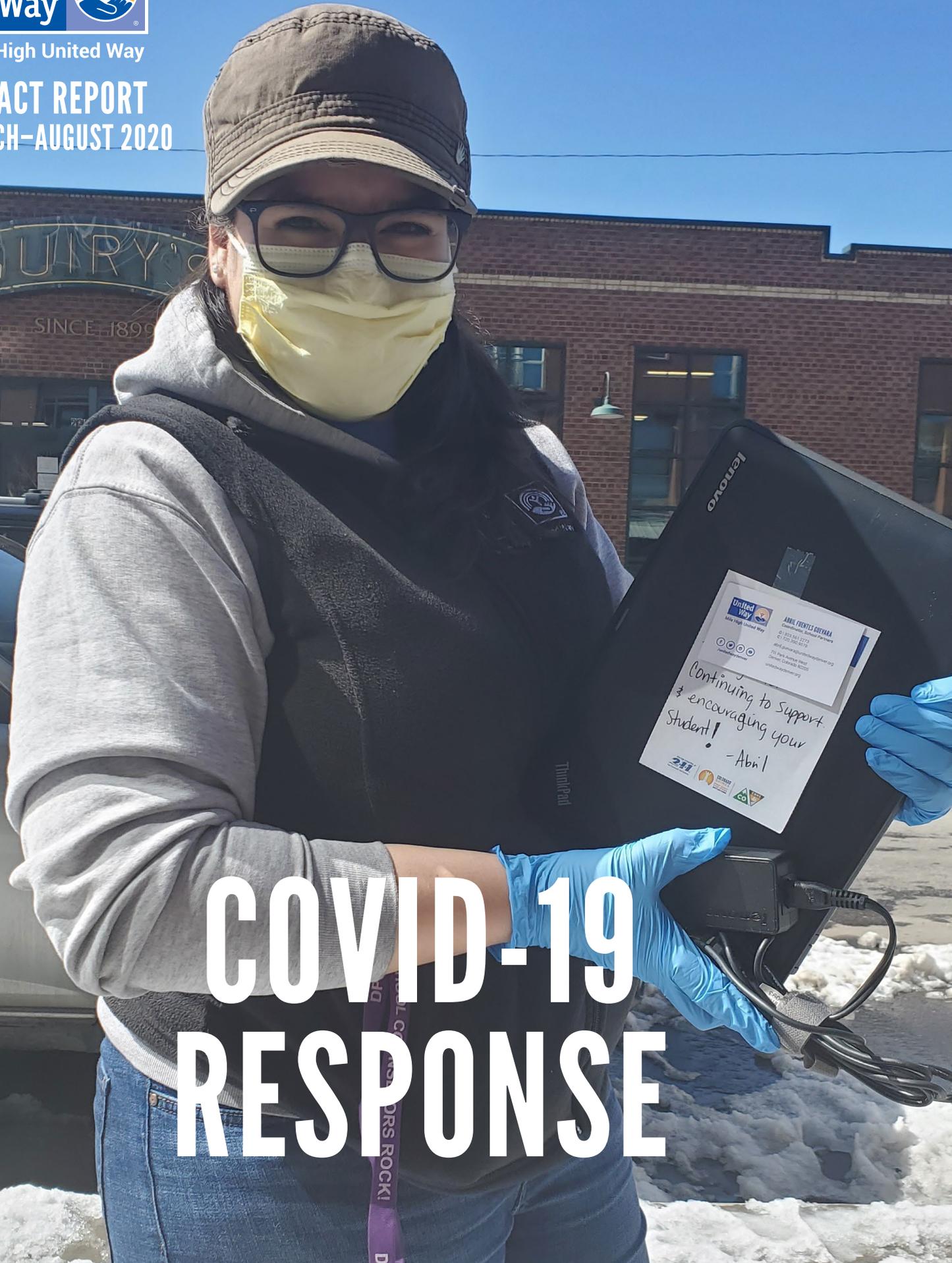




Mile High United Way

IMPACT REPORT MARCH-AUGUST 2020



COVID-19 RESPONSE

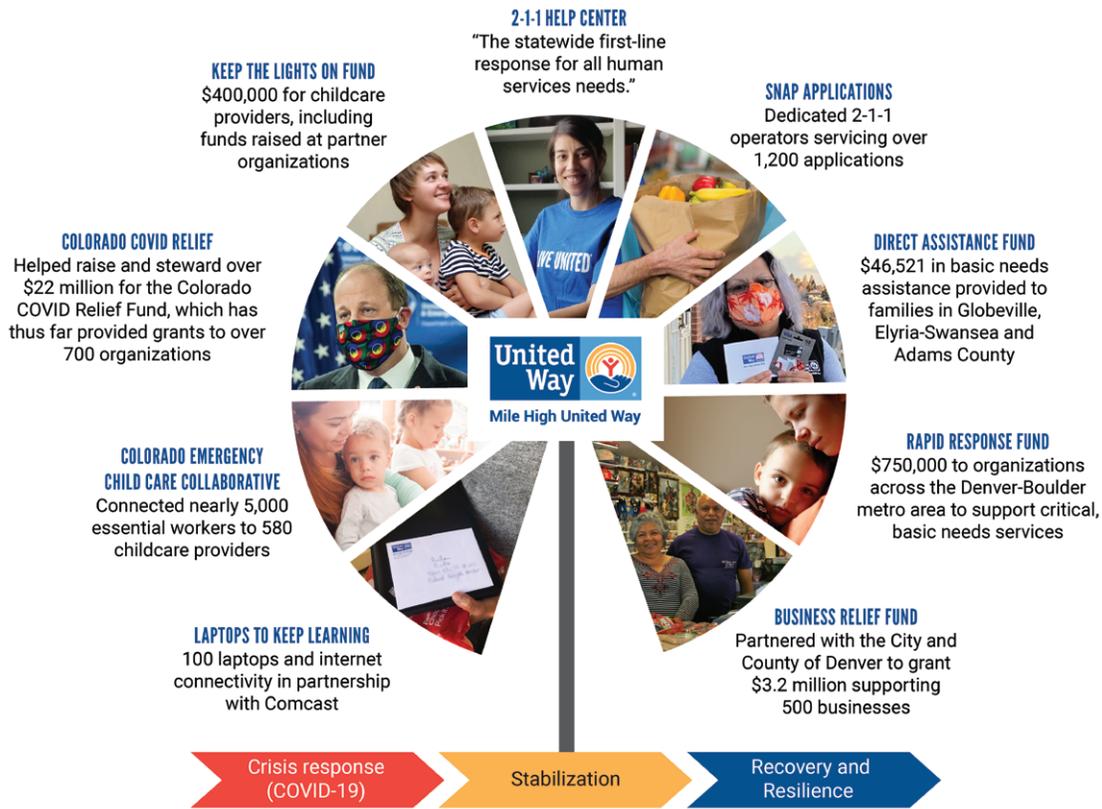
United Way
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Continuing to Support
& encouraging your
Student!
- Abril

211
CO
GO

In March of 2020, the world as we know it changed before our eyes – and the community turned to Mile High United Way. Colorado Governor Jared Polis and Denver Mayor Michael Hancock called on us to help address the immediate needs of our community. It is because of you that we were able to answer the call. Because of you, Mile High United Way has remained on the front line in helping those impacted by COVID-19 access critical support.

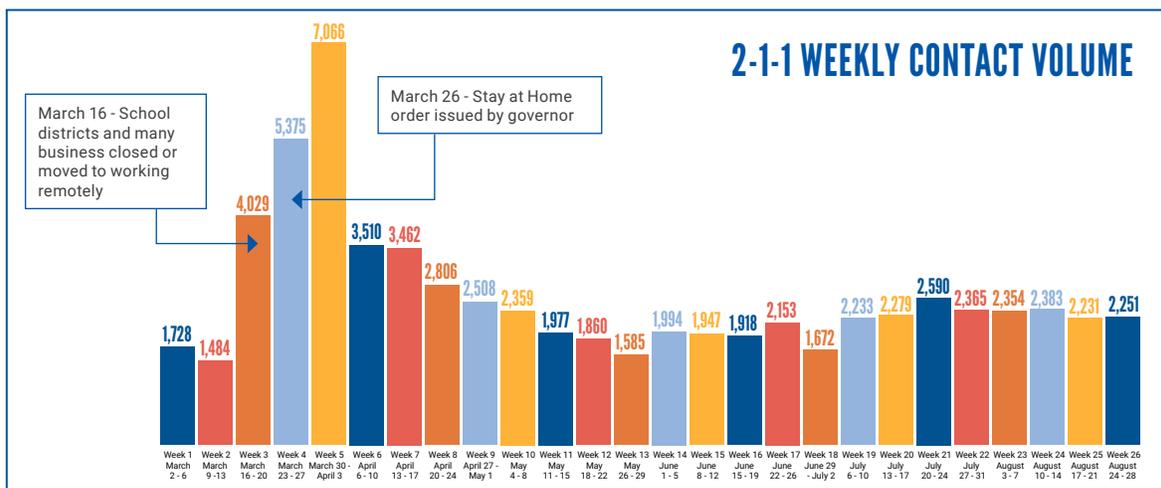


PROVIDING ACCESS TO CRITICAL RESOURCES

As many schools and businesses closed in March, thousands of people were left unemployed and in need of critical resources. They turned to the Mile High United Way's 2-1-1 Help Center. With call volume exploding, peaking at 2,100 calls a day, Mile High United Way connected community members with resources to support their needs. Since the pandemic began, our 2-1-1 team has received over 68,000 requests for help and 211colorado.org received over 200,000 searches for critical resources from people across Colorado.

"2-1-1 is the statewide first line response for all human services needs as they relate to COVID-19."

GOVERNOR JARED POLIS



OUR CALCULATED RESPONSE

By collecting the data through Mile High United Way's 2-1-1 Help Center, we have been able to see in real time where the need for support is the greatest. Based on this data, we have provided critical and rapid response funding, wraparound support for family and business owners, and connection to digital services and technology to those who have been disproportionately impacted by the virus.

CRITICAL AND RAPID RESPONSE FUNDING



WRAPAROUND SUPPORT FOR FAMILY AND BUSINESS OWNERS



CONNECTION TO DIGITAL SERVICES AND TECHNOLOGY



MILE HIGH UNITED WAY COMMUNITY PROGRAMS' RESPONSE



Our \$750,000 in [Rapid Response Funding](#) provided critical support to 50 nonprofit organizations, which delivered food security, housing and rent assistance, health services, and support for seniors. This funding ensured thousands of families in our community kept a roof over their head and food on the table while they continued to navigate this pandemic.

Our **United Neighborhoods** team quickly pivoted our programs to address the immediate needs of our neighbors. In a matter of days, we shifted not only to working remotely ourselves, but to ensuring that our programs functioned remotely as well.

Our Community Navigators kept a pulse on the needs of families in under-resourced neighborhoods, helping those who had been disproportionately impacted meet their basic needs.

COVID-19 shined a spotlight on the fragility of the early care and education sector. Through our Keep the Lights On initiative, under our [United for Families](#) program, \$400,000 was distributed to 1,200 childcare providers across the state to ensure that providers continue to have a healthy, safe, and enriching environment for young children, and parents can return to work.

Our [United for Business](#) team worked quickly to support our small, local business owners, advising them on how to apply for financial assistance, adapt their business practices, and negotiate with their landlords.



We responded to get more youth housed quickly through our [Bridging the Gap](#) program, as well as pivoted to tele-health counseling to support their physical and emotional well-being during this crisis.

YOUR IMPACT: MARIA



In May, one of our United for Schools Community Advocates, Margarita, reached out to parents in our community to provide basic needs resources. One such parent Margarita was able to connect with was Maria, a mother of an elementary school student. When Margarita met Maria at her apartment to drop off a grocery gift card, Maria shared how this pandemic had affected her and her family. Although they both sat at Maria's kitchen table wearing their masks, sitting at a distance, you could still see Maria's tears and hear the anxiety in her voice. No job, no food. Maria opened her refrigerator door revealing empty shelves. As Margarita offered her the gift card, Maria sighed in great relief, and emotionally overwhelmed said, "This is going to save me and my children's lives."

"This is going to save me and my children's lives."

MARIA, UNITED FOR SCHOOLS PARENT

Catalina, a United for Schools Community Advocate, dropping off a gift card to help families with basic needs.

COLORADO COVID RELIEF FUND

In partnership with the State of Colorado and the Colorado Health Foundation, Mile High United Way has helped raise and steward over \$22 million for the Colorado COVID Relief Fund, which has thus far provided grants to over 700 organizations working directly in communities disproportionately impacted by the outbreak.



COLORADO
Governor Jared Polis



This is just a snapshot of the impact you have had on the lives of your fellow Coloradans. **It is because of your commitment to our community that thousands of individuals and families have found stability and hope during a time defined by uncertainty.**

As we move towards a long-term recovery effort, we are so grateful for your continued support.

[Learn more about our COVID-19 response and how you can get involved.](#)