



## ILLCF COVID19 SOLIDARITY FUND

The Illinois Legislative Latino Caucus Foundation (ILLCF) is committed to representing the over 2.2 million Latinos in Illinois, who comprise more than 17.5% of the total population and 25% of K-12 students in the state. The ILLCF recognizes that many Latino families, despite being disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, will not be eligible for most government relief programs.

To address this gap in economic support, the ILLCF is launching the **COVID 19 Solidarity Fund** that will secure donations from corporations, foundations, and individuals to provide cash assistance to families to meet basic needs. The ILLCF has partnered with the Immigration Funders Collaborative (IFC) at the Chicago Community Trust (CCT) to manage the grantmaking process.

### ***Who will be helped by this fund?***

The goal is to provide emergency cash assistance to Latino families in the State of Illinois, especially those families that are not eligible for government aid, such as mixed status families.

### ***What can the funds be used for?***

- Rental and Housing Assistance
- Healthcare or Medications
- Personal protective equipment
- Other Emergency Needs
- Food and Basic Supplies
- Utility assistance
- Baby essentials – Diapers, formula, etc.

### ***How will the funds be distributed?***

The IFC has knowledge, expertise, and a long track record of funding immigrant organizations. The IFC will make grants to Latino immigrant serving organizations across the state with deep roots in the community that can quickly get funds to families hit hardest by the COVID 19 pandemic. Selected nonprofits will screen families and provide cash assistance of up to \$1,000 per household.

### ***How can donations be made?***

Checks can be made payable to **Illinois Legislative Latino Caucus Foundation**, please indicate "COVID19 Solidarity Fund" on the notes section, and send to:  
**Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP**  
**c/o Nicolas Guzman**  
**191 N. Wacker Dr. Suite 3700**  
**Chicago, IL 60606**

Individual donors can make their contribution with a credit card at [charity.gofundme.com/LatinoCaucusSolidarityFund](https://charity.gofundme.com/LatinoCaucusSolidarityFund).

### ***How are Latinos disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic?***

#### • **Highest rates of COVID-19 infection of any group.**

Test data indicate a 60% infection rate among Latinos, compared to 20-30% in other groups.

#### • **Overrepresented in Hard Hit Sectors.**

Latinx working in service, manufacturing, and hospitality, are losing jobs (46%) or work hours (35%), and may not be eligible for unemployment benefits.

#### • **Overrepresented in Essential Jobs.**

At least 36% of Latinos are working in essential jobs and at least 33% do NOT feel safe at work, placing them at higher risk for COVID19 infection.

#### • **Lack of Healthcare Access.**

Latinx are less likely to have coverage (20%), a "health home," and because of citizenship status, may fear seeking healthcare – 20% report losing their employer-based health insurance

#### • **Excluded from Government Relief.**

Many Latinx households are excluded from government relief, even if they filed taxes.

#### • **Lowest Per Capita Wealth.**

Latinos have the lowest per capita wealth accumulation to fall back on during this time.

#### • **Cannot Meet Basic Needs.**

At least 66% of Latino households report difficulty meeting basic needs (e.g. medicine, food, supplies), 43% have trouble making rent/mortgage, and 33% have already lost a significant portion of their savings/retirement.