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**The Catholic Foundation of Greater Philadelphia Responds to
Community Needs During COVID-19**

New Emergency Relief Fund will provide quick access to emergency aid.

PHILADELPHIA, March 23, 2020 – The Catholic Foundation of Greater Philadelphia (CFGF) has established the Emergency Relief Fund (ERF) to quickly respond to the emergency needs of the community within the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. This includes food pantries, vital social service ministries and organizations, and local parishes that are working to address the emergency needs of their community.

The ERF's first initiative will respond to the needs of those impacted by the Coronavirus Pandemic.

“We spoke with some of our community partner organizations who are on the front lines of this issue and we noticed a common theme of food shortages at our local food pantries,” said Sarah O. Hanley, President and CEO of CFGF. “Food and personal hygiene items are the most important things people need right now, and with so many businesses closings and families unable to return to work, this need is becoming increasingly critical by the day.”

CFGF's ERF will be raising funds to purchase food and personal items for all food pantries operated by Catholic Social Services (CSS) of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. CSS operates at least 7 food pantries throughout Southeastern Pennsylvania, all of which have experienced a significant increase in client volume due to the coronavirus, with some pantries experiencing a 100% increase. This increased number of clients means an increased need for supplies. Otherwise, many families in our community will go hungry.

CFGF's ERF is now live and taking donations, and the Foundation is urging all community members to be as generous as they can. Those interested in donating to CFGF's ERF should visit www.TheCFGF.org/ERF. 100% of proceeds will go directly to the CSS food pantries.

About The Catholic Foundation of Greater Philadelphia

The Catholic Foundation of Greater Philadelphia (CFGF) is an independent, nonprofit community foundation committed to growing philanthropy according to the teachings of Jesus Christ. Grounded in the principles of faith and service, CFGF meets the diverse needs of donors and Catholic institutions through charitable fund management and development consulting. Our services ensure an investment in the future of our faith.

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