



COLECTIVO ESPERANZA FUND

Emergency Assistance to Immigrant Families due to COVID-19

The Need: As the country locks down to mitigate the effects of COVID19, there is widespread understanding that our most vulnerable communities need cash assistance to survive. The federal response included expanded unemployment benefits and direct payments to families. Locally, the community quickly established the One Louisville: COVID-19 Response Fund to provide cash assistance for food, rent, transportation as well as support to front-line organizations to continue providing supports to those bearing the brunt of the economic shutdown, often putting themselves and their families at risk in order to earn money for food and housing. Still, people are falling through the cracks, with no relief to their needs and anguish. A number of our local organizations serving the immigrant and refugee communities have identified families and individuals who are not eligible for relief and can connect families to cash assistance administered through the Colectivo Esperanza Fund.

The Process: Douglass Boulevard Christian Church will accept donations and maintain and administer the Colectivo Esperanza Fund. Colectivo Esperanza partners, including La Casita Center, Americana Community Center, Backside Learning Center, Doors to Hope, Adelante Hispanic Achievers and Ministerio Presbiteriano Hispano/Latino of Preston Highway will submit requests on behalf of the individuals they serve, and funds will be distributed in the manner that is most appropriate and rapid (ex: to the agency, directly to the family/individual (in the form of cash, check, money order, gift cards, etc), or to another entity (ex: landlord, utility company).

To contribute funds to the Colectivo Esperanza Fund, contact: Derek Penwell,
Douglass Boulevard Christian Church at
(502) 452-2629 or douglassblvd@gmail.com.