In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Solid Ground is innovating and adapting to ensure the safety of our communities, while meeting the increased and dynamic needs of this crisis.

Solid Ground has helped our community overcome crises for over 45 years – and we’re here now to support it through the pandemic. We know that the people we serve – those living on low incomes and experiencing homelessness, food insecurity, and systemic racism – are disproportionately impacted by both immediate and long-term effects of the pandemic.

Here’s what Solid Ground is doing:

**Setting the table for hundreds of thousands of people**

Solid Ground’s Food System Support provides leadership, coordination, and support to Seattle’s emergency food system, helping 25+ area food banks rise to meet unprecedented demand fed by unemployment and school closures.

Solid Ground Transportation works in partnership with King County Metro Access and other partners to:

- Get personal protective equipment (PPE), hygiene, and other critical supplies to Seattle food banks.
- Provide pickup and delivery service to expand Seattle’s emergency food response capacity. They’re currently delivering over 800 meals per day!

**Helping people keep their homes**

Solid Ground has partnered with United Way’s Home Base program to equitably distribute April/May 2020 rental assistance funds to people who are at risk of losing their housing due to the pandemic.

Solid Ground’s housing facilities have increased residents’ assistance including food deliveries, rent relief, transportation, gift cards for household supplies and groceries, childcare, and more.

**Sustaining core community services**

While we respond to this crisis, we are maintaining core services, such as public benefits legal assistance, housing stabilization funding, Rapid Rehousing, long-term housing for up to 1,000 people who had been unhoused, transportation to access services and healthcare, and multiple strategies for homeless prevention and nurturing long-term skills.
Advocating for equity

Keeping a focus on equity

Advocacy partner Statewide Poverty Action Network brings the voices of people experiencing poverty into policy development. Through its collaborative and community-based advocacy, Poverty Action provides leadership to make sure state and federal pandemic recovery efforts are equitable for all, especially for families living on low incomes and in communities of color.

Our current COVID-19 advocacy goals are to:

► Ensure state benefits such as TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families), ABD (Aged, Blind, and Disabled), State Food Assistance, and State Family Assistance are expanded to meet the unprecedented demand.

► Protect federal stimulus payments from debt collection and garnishment.

► Keep our community members informed, connected, and centered in the government’s pandemic response.

Trusted source of community information

Through Solid Ground’s Coronavirus Resources webpage (www.solid-ground.org/get-help/coronavirus-resources), we are informing community members about the CARES Act, Public Health guidelines, and other key health, housing, food, employment, public benefits, and legal resources and information. For our staff, we developed an even more robust intranet site of resources and materials to support their work with program participants.

Immediate Funding Needs

Our COVID-19 response strategy focuses on five areas:

► Flexible client assistance funds to help meet the dynamic needs of our participants during these times

► Cleaning and hygiene supplies to ensure the safety of our residents, staff, and communities

► Emergency staffing to respond to increased needs across sites

► Technology support to meet the increased tech needs of our participants and improve staff telecommuting capabilities

► Flexible operating funds for significantly impacted programs

For questions and more information on how you can help, contact Solid Ground Giving Manager Gary Rubin at garyr@solid-ground.org.