



# Catawba Connect: COVID-19 RELIEF FUND

[www.CatawbaConnect.org](http://www.CatawbaConnect.org)

## Catawba Connect Round One Grantee Report

March 2021

The Catawba Connect: COVID-19 Relief Fund was created on March 20, 2020 in response to the global COVID-19 pandemic through a partnership between the Arras Foundation, the United Way of Chester County, and the United Way of Lancaster County. The Fund is designed to complement the ongoing work of public entities and to expand the capacity in Chester and Lancaster counties to address emerging needs as we respond to the impact of the COVID-19 coronavirus. In June 2020, the first round of Catawba Connect funds were distributed to the community. The following 14 nonprofit organizations applied and were selected for Round One funding by Catawba Connect volunteers:

- Christian Services
  - GRASP
  - HOPE
  - KARE
  - Lancaster County Council on Aging
  - Lancaster County Partners for Youth
  - Upper Midlands Rural Health Network
- Unique Hair Design
  - Counseling Services of Lancaster
  - Children's Attention Home
  - Keystone
  - Hazel Pittman Center
  - Turning Point of Chester
  - Good Samaritan Medical Clinic

## Catawba Connect: COVID-19 Relief Fund Round One Snapshot

**\$100,000.<sup>00</sup>**

**14**

**42,921**

**26,013**

**16,908**

*Total Amount  
Awarded*

*Total Number of  
Grants*

*Total Number of  
Individuals Served*

*Number of  
Individuals Served  
in Chester Co.*

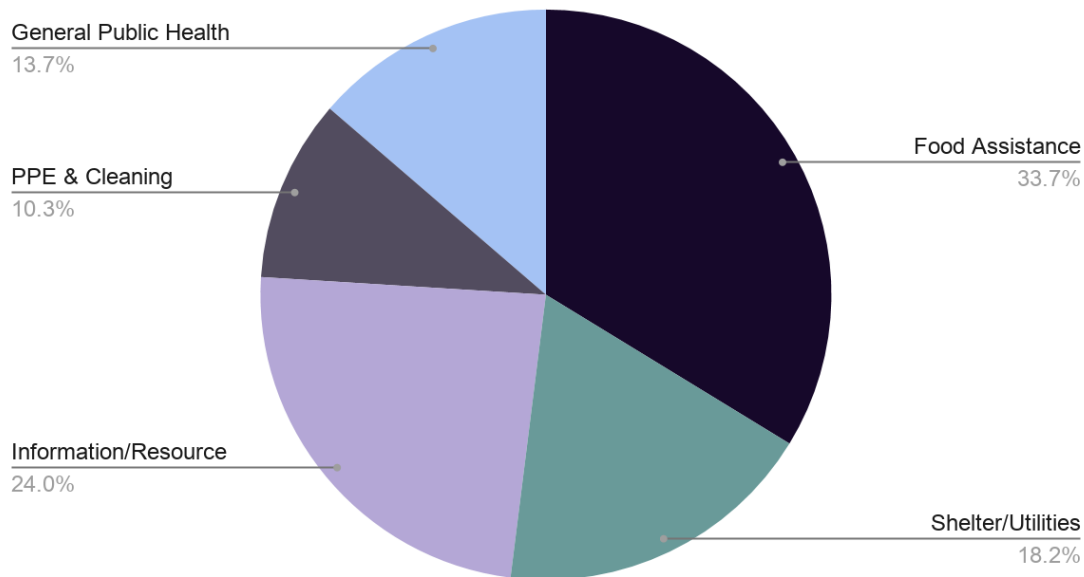
*Number of  
Individuals Served  
in Lancaster Co.*

## Round One Impact Areas

	Food Assistance	Shelter & Utilities Assistance	Information or Resource Distribution	Personal Protective Equipment & Cleaning Supplies	General Public Health Aid
No. of Individuals Served	8,643	2,835	35,556	1,192	2,758
Grantees by Impact Area	Christian Services GRASP HOPE KARE LCCOA Partners for Youth Turning Point	GRASP HOPE KARE	Counseling Services GRASP Hazel Pittman Center HOPE Unique Hair Design UMRHN	Good Samaritan GRASP Unique Hair Design	Counseling Services Hazel Pittman Center Keystone UMRHN

Each Round One grantee supplied a Final Report, outlining the impact made using the Catawba Connect grant. This documentation was returned to the Arras Foundation, the United Way of Chester County, and the United Way of Lancaster County and used to generate this Round One Report. Of the \$100,000 distributed amongst the 14 Round One grant recipients, the majority of the funds were used in the Food Assistance impact area.

### ***Catawba Connect Round One Fund Distribution by Impact Area***



Many of the grantee organizations found new ways to reach community members and, in some instances, pivoted from their usual service delivery methods. Along with the quantitative data given in the grantee reports, qualitative data was also reported. This qualitative information recorded heartfelt stories, grateful comments, and examples of our community members coming together to support one another through the COVID-19 pandemic. Examples include:

- [A statement of thanks from the Lancaster County Council on Aging:](#) *"Thank you for your support enabling seniors to remain in their homes. Staying Home Saves Lives."*
- [An example given by Upper Midlands Rural Health Network:](#) *"There were hundreds of cars that waited in line to pick up the produce for themselves, their families, and their neighbors. At one point it was pouring rain/storming for 2 hours, but we kept loading up boxes in cars to ensure that as many people as possible were able to get food in a timely manner."*
- [A story shared from Christian Services:](#) *"The woman had been referred to our Food Pantry by a friend. Upon arrival during intake, our staff member learned that due to the coronavirus outbreak her hours at work had been reduced and she needed assistance for herself and her two children. When she learned that she also qualified under normal circumstances to receive food monthly she broke into tears. She had no idea of our services, and in the midst of harder times caused by the virus, the silver lining was that she would be able to receive assistance once her hours were restored."*

The Catawba Connect: COVID-19 Relief Fund focused on three priority areas for the first round of grant-making: 1) Access to Healthcare; 2) Strengthening and Supporting Families; and 3) Healthy Economy. Of the 14 grantees for Round One, 13 fell into the priority areas of Access to Healthcare and Strengthening and Supporting Families.

4 Overarching Goals of the Catawba Connect Initiative		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Improving local attitudes regarding healthy behavior during the pandemic</li> <li>- Connecting local people to resources to help mitigate negative effects of the pandemic</li> <li>- Leveraging funding and local philanthropy to support our residents</li> <li>- Advocating for policies to improve conditions for our residents</li> </ul>		
Vision Statements/Three Priority Areas for Round One		
Access to Healthcare	Strengthening & Supporting Families	Healthy Economy
We envision communities where residents can easily access quality medical support and prevention services.	We envision resilient communities that offer empowering supports for family wellbeing, safe neighborhoods, and community trust.	We envision communities where people and businesses are willing and encouraged to work, invest, donate, and spend their resources locally.

Along with partner agencies, the Catawba Connect: COVID-19 Relief Fund is led by community co-chairs and three committees, the Leadership Advisory Committee, the Grants Committee, and the Youth Advisory Committee. Each committee is composed of local leaders and dedicated citizens. These volunteer committee members gave their time and expertise to develop the Catawba Connect initiative to help our community mitigate the effects of COVID.

Community Co-Chairs				
<p>Ashley Shannon, Director, Marketing &amp; Community Relations, MUSC Chester and Lancaster</p> <p>Steve Sherrill, Market Executive, First Citizens Bank</p>				
Leadership Advisory Committee		Grants Committee		Youth Advisory Committee
<p><b>Bill Bundy</b> Chester Healthcare Foundation</p> <p><b>Brooke Clinton</b> Chester Co. Chamber of Commerce</p> <p><b>Audrey Curry</b> Former City Councilman, Lancaster</p> <p><b>Tommy Darby</b> Chester County</p> <p><b>Susan DeVenny</b> The Arras Foundation</p> <p><b>Dean Faile</b> Lancaster Co. Chamber of Commerce</p> <p><b>Kristin Fairfax</b> United Way of Chester County</p>	<p><b>Jerry Holt</b> Retired</p> <p><b>Amber Jackson</b> United Way of Lancaster County</p> <p><b>Rick Jiran</b> Duke Energy</p> <p><b>Michele Lineberger</b> Springs Close Foundation</p> <p><b>Jodie Plyler</b> First Palmetto Bank</p> <p><b>Linda Sudol</b> TruVista</p> <p><b>Veronica Thompson</b> Lancaster County</p>	<p><b>Alison Alexander</b> Lancaster County</p> <p><b>Richard Band</b> Retired, Lancaster Co. Library</p> <p><b>Lisa Bridges</b> Retired Educator</p> <p><b>Abby Brunson</b> Chester County Schools</p> <p><b>Erick Crawford</b> Crawford Funeral Home</p> <p><b>Ed Darby</b> Chester Emergency Management</p> <p><b>Kathy Davis</b> Retired, Spratt Savings &amp; Loan</p> <p><b>Justin Hallman</b> Comporium</p> <p><b>Jackie Harris</b> Lancaster Children's Home</p> <p><b>Ernest Jenkins</b> USCL</p>	<p><b>Lucille Mackey</b> Springs Close Foundation</p> <p><b>Susan Marion</b> Retired</p> <p><b>Paul McKenzie</b> Lancaster County Schools</p> <p><b>Dr. Roy Still</b> Retired, Barnett Family Medical</p> <p><b>Sharon Teague</b> Founders Federal</p> <p><b>Wallace Thompson</b> Brown's Corner</p> <p><b>Nicole Trull</b> Comporium</p> <p><b>Mike Vaughn</b> Chester County Council</p> <p><b>Tammy Woods</b> Springs Close Foundation</p>	<p><b>Paul Bobai</b></p> <p><b>Emma DeVenny</b></p> <p><b>Michael Howe</b></p> <p><b>Abigayle Morrison</b></p> <p><b>Effie Spears</b></p> <p><b>Reagan Thompson</b></p> <p><b>Ryleigh Waiters</b></p> <p><b>Keeonn Wilson</b></p>

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## **From Our Partner Agencies**

**“Resilient** communities stay connected during times of crisis. Thanks to all of our Catawba Connect volunteers, partners, donors, and front line workers for pulling together to help Chester and Lancaster County residents stay safe and healthy during the pandemic. Together, we will always be stronger.” - Susan DeVenny, President & CEO  
The Arras Foundation

**“During** a time that no one anticipated, we were shown how strong and caring our communities are through the impact of the Catawba Connect: COVID-19 Relief Fund. The collaboration of non-profit agencies, volunteers, community members and so many others truly was an eye-opening experience and something I am very proud to have been a part of while navigating through this pandemic. Although it is not over, these efforts have made a positive impact and will continue to do so in the days ahead. Trying times have shown me personally that there is a tremendous amount of good in this world. I am grateful for everyone who has made Catawba Connect such a great asset to our communities.” - Kristin Fairfax, Executive Director  
United Way of Chester County

**“Witnessing** our community make every effort in supporting one another during this pandemic through the Catawba Connect relief fund has been amazing. The pandemic has revealed just how much we need our community, volunteers, nonprofits and each other’s support to move forward and it’s been a privilege to work alongside many of these nonprofits who risk their own health to ensure the health and safety of others in need.” - Amber Jackson, Executive Director  
United Way of Lancaster County

*Susan      Kristin      Amber*



The Catawba Connect: COVID-19 Relief Fund was made possible by so many committed partners, volunteers, and donors who continue to contribute their time, talent, and treasure to helping our community through this difficult time. Thank you to all who have supported this cause and collaborate with the Catawba Connect team as we continue this work.