

**ChildFund International  
Humanitarian Situation Report Template**

**Humanitarian Situation Report [#7]  
COVID-19 – US Program  
May 6, 2020**

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April 30 – May 6, 2020

**FOR UPDATES, PLEASE HIGHLIGHT UPDATED SECTIONS IN RED**

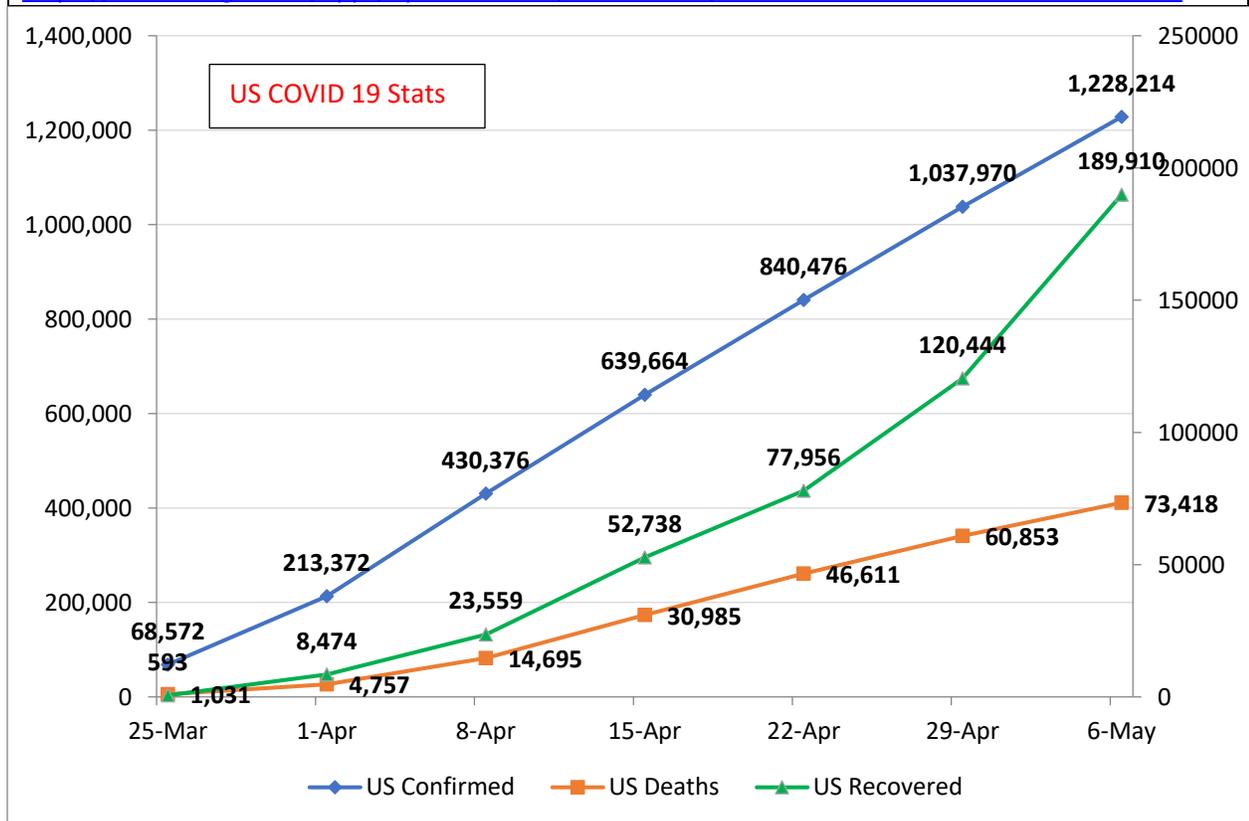
Part 1: The Overall Situation

COUNTRY

Total Number of COVID-19 Cases Reported	Number of Deaths	Number of Cases Recuperated
<b>1,228,214</b>	<b>73,418</b>	<b>189,910</b>

SOURCE:

<https://www.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/bda7594740fd40299423467b48e9ecf6>



ChildFund-supported areas (Provide only if you have reliable data on this. You can report on a consolidated basis or by program state/region/province/etc. if you have this detail.)

Geographical area (country or state/region/province)	Total Number of COVID19 Cases Reported	Number of Deaths	Number of Cases Recuperated
Richmond, VA (City of Richmond, Henrico & Chesterfield Counties)	2069	147 (primarily due to long-term care facility deaths in Henrico County)	No data for counties
Jackson, MS (Hinds/Rankin Cos)	814	17	No data counties
Rio Grande Valley, TX (Hidalgo & Cameron Counties)	807	25	No data for counties

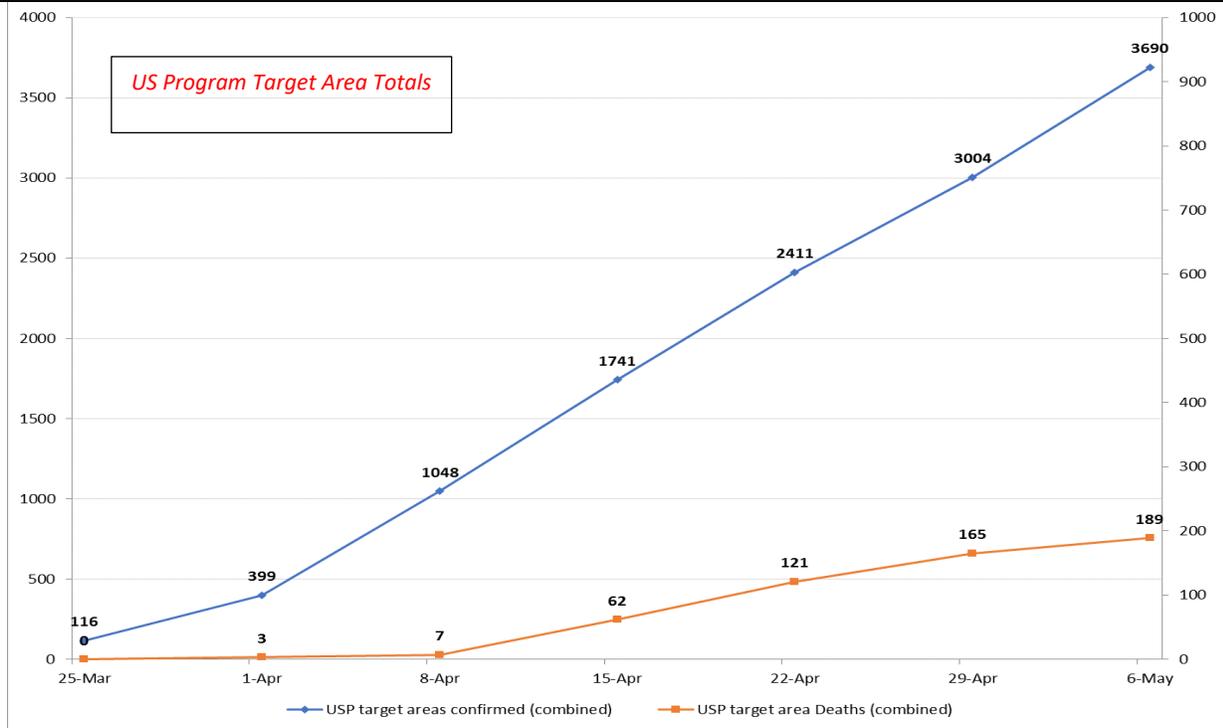
SOURCE: National Ministry of Health or other reliable source

<https://www.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/bda7594740fd40299423467b48e9ecf6>

MS Department of Health - [https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/\\_static/14,21882,420,873.html](https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/14,21882,420,873.html)

TX Dept of State Health Services -

<https://txdshs.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/ed483ecd702b4298ab01e8b9cafc8b83>



- Any relevant background information about areas affected.
- Host government posture: Have they declared a state of emergency and/or requested outside assistance? Which nationwide measures has the government taken, e.g., limitation on meetings, internal travel, school closures etc.

**Governors have declared State of Emergency in each of ChildFund’s 3 targeted states. All federal and state assessments (standardized testing) have been suspended for the 2019-2020 school year. “Grab and go”**

breakfasts and lunches are available to anyone 18 yrs and under in all targeted areas at selected school (and community sites) throughout the school closures. All ChildFund US target areas are currently under “Stay at Home” orders. Schools are closed for remainder of the school year for all ChildFund US target areas.

**RGV, TX:** As of March 23, in target counties, all non-essential businesses ordered closed until April 10<sup>th</sup>. Curfew in place between 2000 – 0500. Schools are closed until further notice (last day of school is May 29). The statewide “stay at home” order expands closure of nonessential businesses until at least April 30.

First phase of the plan to “Open Texas” went into effect on May 1. Under Phase I, certain services and activities are allowed to open with limited occupancy, and DSHS released minimum standard health protocols for businesses and individuals. The Governor also announced statewide testing and contact tracing initiatives to identify and test Texans who contract COVID-19 and mitigate further spread of the virus. (See more in section 3.b.1 regarding activation of AmeriCorps members to conduct contact tracing)

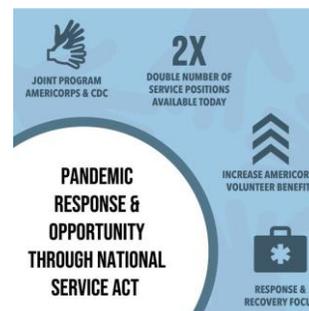
**Richmond, VA -** Non-essential retail businesses that cannot limit their operations to 10 patrons or less with adequate social distancing must close. All VA schools are closed for the remainder of the school year. VA statewide Stay at Home order is effective until June 10.

**Jackson, MS:** Civil Emergency declared for Jackson, MS through March 31 – non-essential city government offices closed. Gatherings of 10 or more people are prohibited. Bars have been ordered to close and restaurants may only operate as take-out, drive-through, or delivery service only. Schools are closed through at least April 10. However, on March 25 the MS Governor overrode individual municipality “stay at home” for non-essential services orders. While MS has still not declared a statewide stay at home, the governor allows local county/city orders to take precedence. The city of Jackson’s “stay at home” order is in effect until April 17 (includes school closures). On April 1, the MS Gov declared a Stay at Home order.

- What responses has the government put into place to address the health crisis and/or the economic impact? Various federal stimulus packages are currently being considered/debated in the US Congress, including a package worth \$1.8 trillion to ease the impact of coronavirus which includes loans for small businesses to cover expenses/pay employees for up to 8 weeks, payments of \$1,200/adult and \$500/child, support to hospitals for Covid-19 expenses. In addition to this federal response, various actions are being taken in ChildFund target areas including suspension of housing evictions, elimination of Medicaid copay requirements and extending tax deadlines. Congress passed the 2 trillion Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, provides a 2 trillion package of economic, health and education supports, including provisions for 501(c)3 organizations (non-profits) and specific provisions that provide flexibility for US Program as an AmeriCorps grantee (federal grant). Congress is considering next legislative steps, including an interim bill and a second CARES Act.

“UNITE Act” calls for increased AmeriCorps recruitment and increased compensation, offers priority consideration to unemployed veterans, others unemployed due to the coronavirus

*The Pandemic Response and Opportunity Through National Service Act*, introduced by Sen. Coons (D) would fund 750,000 national service (AmeriCorps, Peace Corps, etc) positions over a three-year period, prioritizing funding for activities directly related to response and recovery, such as: Public health services, Emergency logistics, Workforce and reemployment services, Education support and Services that combat nutrition insecurity. The President signed an executive order limiting immigration to the U.S. for the next 60 days.



The US Senate passed a \$484 billion coronavirus aid package on Tuesday for additional support to small businesses, including additional help for hospitals and virus testing. House expected to vote April 23. The President signed Congress' latest coronavirus economic relief package, which includes additional aid to small businesses and hospitals and includes funding for testing.

- What travel restrictions has the government put in place for travelers entering the country?

Foreign nationals who have visited one of the following countries in the past 14 days may not enter the United States: China, Iran, European Schengen area (Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Monaco, San Marino, Vatican City), United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland), Republic of Ireland. While there is currently no ban on international travel for American citizens, lawful permanent residents, families will be allowed to enter the US but only through one of 13 airports if they have been in one of the above countries in the past 14 days. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/travel-in-the-us.html> The US border with Canada and Mexico are temporarily closed to nonessential travel.

US Program is of course abiding by ChildFund International's ban on international travel and USP has suspended all domestic travel for our staff until further notice. Officials in Texas order air travelers arriving from several locations within the US to self-quarantine for 14 days.

Part 2: The Situation in Areas Where ChildFund Works

Partner Organization (Use Salesforce identifying code/name.) Texas is only area with enrolled/ sponsored children	# of Enrolled and Sponsored Children		COVID19 Cases Reported in ChildFund Communities (Y/N/Unknown) Provide number if available.	Number of Enrolled Children Reported with COVID19 (if available.)	Number of enrolled children diseased as result of COVID19
	Sponsored	Enrolled			
<b>Texas Area</b> LP- CIS Hidalgo Co	2057	2901	None reported	None reported	None reported
<b>CIS Richmond</b>	NA	NA	None reported	None reported	None reported
<b>Operation Shoestring (MS)</b>	NA	NA	None reported	None reported	None reported

Child deaths: List any sponsored child (with Partner organization and child ID from salesforce) diseased as a result of COVID19. (Note: These need to be reported immediately following the regular sponsorship protocols.)

Partner Organization (Use Salesforce identifying code/name.)	What is the status of the program/sponsorship processes (operational/suspended)?					
	Program Implementation	CVS	M&E Level 2	Enrollment /Disaffiliation	Sponsorship Communication	DFC
Partner 1	Alternative program services	Delayed until FY21	Delayed until FY21	On hold	Sending photos of TYL from kids that have been collected.	Deliver DFC gift cards (via photo)

Partner 2	Alternative program services	NA		NA	NA	NA
Partner 3	Alternative program services	NA		NA	NA	NA

Note: As a global measure, all sponsor visits have been suspended.

- What issues are children in these areas facing (food shortages, safety concerns, school closure, etc.)?
- Child protection risks caused or exacerbated by crisis situation.

**Food insecurity, the digital divide and educational inequity, child protection concerns, economic disparity and fear and anxiety due to immigration/citizenship status are issues that our target population experiences under normal circumstances. We are concerned that the coronavirus pandemic will only exacerbate these issues.**

- Many families within the US depend on the daily free breakfasts and lunches their children receive while attending school. While all target schools are providing “grab and go” breakfasts and lunches during school closures, families must come to a designated site in order to participate. However, transportation is not provided which will result in many of the most vulnerable going hungry.
- During school closures, many schools are offering virtual instruction through various methods. However, many of our families do not have access to internet or home computers (or insufficient where there are multiple children in the home). Families are less likely to have children’s books in the home, so less likely for children to read.
- Additionally, we know that violence in the home will most likely increase, with families quarantined and cooped up in often small, substandard living conditions under heightened stress and anxiety.
- We anticipate that the economic impact on target population will take a toll as a large % of the population are engaged in seasonal, self-employment, are undocumented or not part of the work force and won’t even benefit from government stimulus measures.
- Healthcare – We are concerned that families of undocumented immigration status will be reluctant to seek appropriate healthcare (including Covid-19 symptoms) when needed out of fear of detection by ICE.
- Mississippi is experiencing the highest rates of hospitalization due to COVID (1 out of 3 confirmed persons are hospitalized).
- While the data on the racial disparity in COVID-19 remains limited, early data is indicating a disproportionately high rate of COVID infections and death among people of color (especially black Americans) due to: a) higher rates of underlying medical conditions such as asthma, diabetes, etc. b) Many hold low-wage/essential jobs, (food service, public transit, health care), requiring interaction with the public. c) mistrust of the medical/healthcare system.

**Of particular concern is migrants who have come to the US to seek asylum and are currently being detained in detention centers or awaiting in migrant camps on the Mexico side of the southern US border.**

Part 3: ChildFund’s Response

**3.a. Overall**

- Who is or will be leading/managing the response?
  - Julia Campbell will provide oversight for the USP response, reviewing updated information, status and requests from ChildFund and external stakeholders to continually inform the USP response and update our staff and LPs on evolving directives, guidance, opportunities to support effectiveness and efficiency.**
  - o **Richmond: Local Partner - CIS of Richmond is working in collaboration and response to emergency leadership planning facilitated by the City of Richmond and County of Henrico and includes the health director and superintendents.**

- **Jackson, MS: Local Partner - Operation Shoestring** is working to ensure that children and youth and their families have access to nutrition and learning resources while schools are closed. OS has applied for a Payroll protection grant/loan through the CARES Act, to help them keep their part-time staff on board.
- **RGV Texas: Our ChildFund team** under the direct supervision of Santiago Baldazo is leading ChildFund's response in the RGV. (The ChildFund team is responsible for implementing all of our sponsorship activities and much of our programming – with support from our LP CIS)
- Planned, desired or ongoing response – inside or outside current operational areas.  
**We will focus our response on our current operational areas but may be able to expand our scope in Texas through collaboration with our TX AmeriCorps network.**
- Who are we partnering or collaborating with to provide our response?  
**In addition to our Local Partners in each of our areas, our Texas team is directly coordinating with schools, county officials and will continue to reach out to appropriate resource partners (mental health providers, area food banks, etc.). We also are coordinating statewide with other Texas AmeriCorps programs through OneStar Foundation, our grantor and TX state AmeriCorps Commission.**
- How is ChildFund linked with humanitarian coordination structures, i.e., in which clusters or working groups do we participate? The most recent/next meeting and who is representing ChildFund? Donor meetings we have attended, or missions that we are aware of related to the response?

### 3.b. Program Response

Please organize your program response report as per the 4 objectives included in our global response plan. You can add an additional category if you have response activities planned or executed that do not align with these objectives. For each objective use the questions below to guide your report.

- What kind of response activities or interventions have been executed? What support items are needed or have been collected/distributed?
- What is the current progress of implementation vs. the established response plan?
- Who are we partnering or collaborating with to provide our response?
- What kind of response activities are you still planning for the coming period?

#### 3.b.1. Stop COVID-19 from infecting children and families

##### ChildFund's Global Response Plan

To help children and families protect themselves from COVID-19, we are installing community, handwashing stands; educating communities about symptoms, hygiene measures and where to get tested or treatment; and distributing soap, hand sanitizer, gloves and masks to families and frontline, health workers. For children who are being treated for COVID-19 or are subject to quarantine measures, we are creating child-friendly spaces with age-appropriate toys and reading matter.



**ChildFund Community Mobilizers, AmeriCorps members and Local Partners are texting, calling families to stay connected and check in with them to see how they are doing, provide tips on helping children manage stress and stay safe, give encouragement. Video tips and demonstrations on washing hands and physical distancing are shared via LP social media. Printed child-friendly tip sheets are being delivered along with learning packets (see under 3.b.4)**



**Team member messages to enrolled children**

Our AmeriCorps grant requires us to make AmeriCorps members available to support disaster response and/or recovery efforts as needed by the State of Texas. On May 6, OneStar notified us that they are activating all available AmeriCorps members that can reasonably respond to participate in contact tracing activities with the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS). ChildFund AmeriCorps members will be certified to serve a minimum of 8 hours/week as contact tracers, calling persons who have been diagnosed with COVID-19, gather their contacts and proceed to call those contacts warning them of potential exposure and connect them with public health information and services including testing. This will fortify efforts to control the pandemic in Texas. Our members will also be able to continue supporting ChildFund’s COVID 19 response activities along with the contact tracing.

**3.b.2. Ensure that children get food they need**

**ChildFund’s Global Response Plan**  
 To ensure that the most vulnerable families can keep food on the table, pay rent and cover other basic needs, we are providing cash for those families most needing this support, such as those who have lost their income because of COVID-19, child or elder-headed households, and/or households affected by disability or chronic illness. Where possible, we are distributing food and basic household items directly, carefully abiding by COVID-19 protection measures

Local Partners in Mississippi and Richmond area are collaborating with schools and other groups to ensure that their most vulnerable families have access to food – through school curbside deliveries, take-away evening meals and through deliveries of food packets directly to homes.

2/3 of target families have indicated a need for food support,

**3.b.2. 1. Cash Transfers and vouchers**

- Is your CO planning or implementing cash transfers or vouchers as part of COVID19 response?  
Not at this time.
- If so, brief description of progress to date.

**Cash transfers or vouchers executed**

Beneficiaries		Amount transferred (US\$)	Transfer mechanism (i.e. mobile money, banking system other financial service provider etc,
Total	Gender (if available)		
	Female      Male		

**3.b.2.2. Other responses in relation to objective 3.b.2.**

**3.b.3. Keep children safe from Violence : physically and emotionally**

**ChildFund’s Global Response Plan**  
 We are supporting community-based child protection systems that identify, respond to and refer cases of abuse, neglect, violence or exploitation. We are also providing virtual, online psychological first aid and counseling, and supporting temporary shelters for children who live on the street, providing hygiene supplies, food and other basics. We are also arranging safe and appropriate care for children who are separated from their caregivers due to treatment or prevention measures.

Key findings from staff check-ins: families are abiding by stay at home orders and many are spending time interacting with their children. The biggest stressors seem to be fear of the coronavirus/lack of access to PPEs and struggling/frustration with home school instruction. Staff have indicated that calls with parents are often lengthy as there is a need for someone to hear them out. We are also providing psycho social support through our online “Dream Corner” activities (see under 3.b.4)

### 3.b.4. Help children continue to do their job: Learning

#### ChildFund’s Global Response Plan

While schools remain closed, we are supporting children’s learning through activities and tutoring sessions online or by radio. For students without reliable internet access, we are distributing home learning kits with materials and guides for their use.

Approximately 2/3 of US Program target families in all areas, lack internet access, (for those who do, access through cell phones but coverage is spotty), so our distance learning approach includes both online virtual options and distribution of printed materials through learning packets in all areas.

MS: Facebook live events support academic instruction, using Barksdale Reading, Scholastic’s home learning modules and other resources. Virtual meetings via Zoom are taking place with the Ambassadors (LS3), exploring how they can adapt a pre-COVID Voice project called “The Game of Life for Jackson youth” with an “in the time of COVID” lens. **On-line video stories and mini-lessons.**

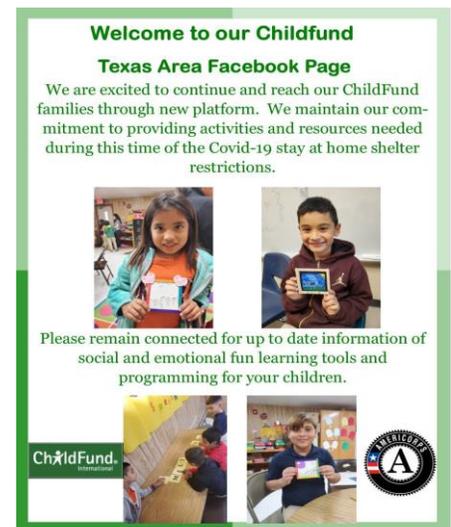
Richmond: Local partners (CIS) are finding needed resources to help bridge the gap, providing emergency food support, building resiliency through modeling social-emotional and mindfulness tools and doing social-distancing check in’s.

#### Texas:

- SEL Unit Plans: AmeriCorps members are pairing up (virtually) and reviewing selected SEL children’s books to develop unit plans (discussions questions, arts activities, music, games, supplies list, etc.) with a “remote learning” lens based on those books. Unit plans will be incorporate into upcoming (summer or beyond) remote programming.
- Team members are submitting storytime video readings and video demonstrations of SEL activities that accompany select books (“Whimsy’s Heavy Things”, “After the Fall”, etc) that focus on themes of anxiety, fear, loneliness, etc. for kids/families to do at home. Staff are editing the videos and content will be available beginning week of April 27. **Staff are notifying and encouraging families to sign up or follow Facebook group and send invites of new video postings to every family that is not part of Facebook group.** Some of our partner schools will include these readings/ demonstrations through their Facebook page.

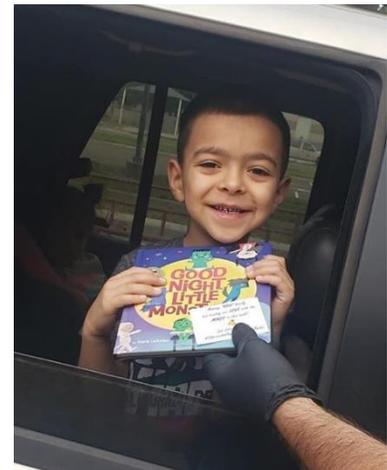
**- Below are links to SEL unit online content being developed:**

- <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hdwD3jNpU-ztq99b7qeL8u8Kj-WmrF2k/view?usp=sharing>
- <https://drive.google.com/file/d/19KOEzXWsfFrTBbHUPDZhH19yz9clvvjtV/view?usp=sharing>
- <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1mKSXC9lksf2VXcNM1aXxyt7OGHh8p8-/view?usp=sharing>
- <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1yniKhnhOnY81YzjL9jLUyngGUawEAhy/view?usp=sharing>
- <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1t8s9NTNQ6Bw3v6QGLvuD9vo2XASTbzOA/view?usp=sharing>



To further develop COVID 19 “Learning” initiatives, our AmeriCorps COVID 19 Planning Grant team convened to initiate short-term project to reimagine our Dream Corners methodology (currently being facilitated by AmeriCorps members) for the places in which children and youth are now spending much of their time: at home, and online.

- We are preparing packets with books and accompanying social emotional learning activities (similar to the virtual activities) to be delivered via “bookmobile” deliveries and at school curbside lunch deliveries starting in May.



**3.b.5. Other responses**

**Below Sections for Internal Use Only**

Part 4: Office and Staff Status

Office Status (Open/Closed)	Number of Staff: (includes ChildFund employees, contract staff and AmeriCorps members)				
	Diagnosed with COVID19	Diseased from COVID19	Working from Office	Working from Home	On Special Leave
TX office partially opened/select hrs. with 1-2 staff facilitating “essential services (receive deliveries, prepare materials)	0	0	2-3	25	0

Notes: Any cases of staff diseased need to be reported immediately to RD and GHR. Special leave as per [COVID19 Administrative Guidelines](#).

Number of staff/partner organization staff completed WHO COVID online training <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/training/online-training>.

**None at this time – Staff have registered and participates in online COVID trainings from other sources.**

**SCAN Self-Care webinar,  
 “Trauma-Informed in the Age of Coronavirus” national screening - All US Program staff participated  
 OneStar “Managing Self Care and Preventing Burnout During COVID 19”**

Part 5 Human Resources

- Which visitors are there in the country ? Please include names, functions, contact information and arrival/departure dates for both IO and RO staff (note: due to the travel ban, this will apply only once the ban has been lifted)
- Any gaps in staffing/need for deployment from other COs or Global Teams?
- Are there any other major HR issues?

Part 6 Safety & Security

- Are police and other services functioning in the normal manner?  
**Police in the Rio Grande Valley have set up check points throughout communities, stopping people and asking where they are going. Fines up to \$1000 for those violating the Stay at Home order.**
- Are the courts still operating? **Varies from state to state and by type of court proceedings – specifics.**
- Are there reports of looting or increased criminality? **Not at this time (although some reports of price gouging). Crime is actually down as people stay home.**
- Have military personal being deployed to patrol towns or cities? **No**
- Confirm the safety of staff and their families in the affected area. **We are holding weekly Team Check-ins via Microsoft TEAMS to ensure all team members are safe and engaged in service. These check-ins also include “self-care” resources and exercises.**
- Have Safety and security risks/mitigation plans been updated to current environment?  
**Following OneStar AmeriCorps Risk Management Guidelines**
- Recommendations around any upcoming travel planned for staff or donors (note: Only once global travel ban has been lifted) **No plans for travel of donors or staff through the next few months.**

Part 7 Grants

List all active grants:

Grant Job Code	Grant Name	Donor	Status of Implementation (Normal/Reduced/Suspended)	Any specific guidance received from donor? (Yes/No)
25-050	OneStar AmeriCorps	OneStar	Reduced -	YES

Provide any additional narrative on how the COVID19 crisis affects implementation of your major grants.  
**OneStar is providing ongoing guidance and support as we continue to implement our AmeriCorps grant. Key changes to implementation include: (see attached AmeriCorps TX Coronavirus Guidance)**

- **Development of alternative service opportunities for AmeriCorps members**
- **Development of Teleservice policy**
- **Provision of AmeriCorps member living allowances**
- **Flexibility in expenditure of grant funds towards Covid-19 program response**
- **Waiver of penalty’s for AmeriCorps members not fulfilling target service hours**

Part 8 Funding

Provide information about potential sources of funding, including grant donors, subsidy, Emergency Action Fund, Alliance members, GIK, etc., for these emergency response efforts using the chart below:

Donor	Program	Amount (USD)	Requested? (Y/N)	Confirmed ? (Y/N)
FirstBook	TX Bookmobile	\$1000	Y	Y

<u>OneStar AmeriCorps</u>	TX programs	We are allowed to re-direct % of grant funds (TBD) towards Covid-19 response.	Y	Y
OneStar AmeriCorps	Covid-19 Response Planning Grant	\$61,607	Y	Y
Center for Disaster Philanthropy	US COVID Response	Undetermined	N (Initial call w/ Directors of Strategic Initiatives & Major Initiatives)	N

- Budget
  - o Outline how we will use this funding with a rough topline budget.
- **FirstBook: Funding is in the form of a “Gift Certificate” for purchase of books from First Book’s Book Bank. Must be spent by April 30<sup>th</sup>. 2800 books purchased for distribution to children in TX.**
- **OneStar: We submitted a budget reallocation shortly before COVID situation. We continue to follow that budget, with allowance for adjustments to support COVID related responses such as purchase of tablets and accessories for members to be able to effectively work remotely.**

Part 9 Media/Communications

- o List of media who will be or have been contacted with press releases.
- o List of emergency CO spokespeople, including name, location, contact information, and languages spoken. **Julia Campbell (English) is primary USP CO spokesperson, with Santiago Baldazo as secondary contact (focused on TX and Spanish language media requests). We have a couple of AmeriCorps members with COMMS skills we may want to prepare for AmeriCorps media opps.**
- o Plans for collecting photos/videos/stories, e.g., should an outside photographer be hired?
- o Key points for messaging and visibility, particularly any host-government sensibilities that must be considered.
- o Support needed or requested from IO, GSS or Global Teams – whether onsite or remote.
- **US Program Staff received “Teams” training on March 26**
- **Requested support from Shelby French for team “self-care moments” during upcoming team meetings.**
- **Collaborating with Digital team on potential postings for ChildFund broader audience based on our SEL Storytelling**
- **Support from CPiE and P&P on development and implementation of COVID 19 response planning grant**

