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First National Bank of Omaha Awards More than \$3 Million to Organizations Providing COVID-19 Relief

OMAHA, Neb. May 6, 2020. – First National Bank of Omaha (FNBO) will award more than \$3 million in community development grants and impact investments to 27 organizations in Nebraska, Colorado, Illinois, Kansas, South Dakota and Texas, providing relief to individuals and businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, announced Alec Gorynski, Vice President, Community Development and Corporate Philanthropy. FNBO’s community investment strategy focuses on affordable housing, workforce and small business development; the bank’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic is in line with that strategy by focusing on housing, workforce and small business stability to get through this crisis.

“During this pandemic, our community focus remains strong and FNBO is committed to doing its part to mitigate the financial impact of this virus on our communities,” Gorynski said. “Therefore, we are providing financial support to nonprofit organizations that are addressing both the short-term needs and long-term impact to individuals and small businesses.”

The first round of grants supports organizations providing housing stability programs. With businesses closing or unable to operate at full scale, workers are seeing hours cut and being furloughed or laid off. This may leave individuals and families unable to pay mortgage or rent and struggling to stay in their homes. These grants are being awarded to nonprofit organizations that are helping families remain stable and healthy in their homes by providing financial assistance for rent, mortgage, utilities and other needs, such as food and living expenses. Recipients include:

Nebraska

United Way of Western Nebraska, Alliance – \$10,000

Fremont Area United Way, Fremont – \$10,000

Heartland United Way, Grand Island – \$10,000

Hope Harbor, Grand Island – \$5,000

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Kearney Area Community Foundation, Kearney – \$10,000

Salvation Army, Norfolk – \$5,000

Heart Ministry Center, Omaha – \$10,000

Intercultural Senior Center, Omaha – \$10,000

Metro Area Continuum of Care, Omaha – \$15,000

No More Empty Pots, Omaha – \$10,000

Omaha Community Foundation, Omaha – \$35,000

The Salvation Army, Omaha – \$10,000

Together Inc., Omaha – \$10,000

United Way of the Midlands, Omaha - \$35,000

Youth Emergency Services – \$10,000

Colorado

Community Foundation of Boulder County, Boulder – \$10,000

United Way of Larimer County, Fort Collins – \$15,000

United Way of Weld County, Greeley – \$10,000

Illinois

Fox Valley United Way, Aurora – \$5,000

Kiswaukee United Way, DeKalb – \$10,000

United Way of Greater McHenry County, McHenry – \$5,000

Kansas

Harvesters Community Food Network, Kansas City - \$10,000

South Dakota

United Way of Greater Yankton, Yankton – \$10,000

Texas

Foster Friends, Plano – \$2,500

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In addition, Gorynski said FNBO has contributed \$2.75 million in impact investments into community loan funds across the bank's footprint that are providing small businesses with COVID-19 relief loans. These community loan funds are held and managed by Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) that provide underserved businesses access to capital. CDFIs receiving FNBO impact investments include:

- Colorado Enterprise Fund, Denver, Colo. – \$1.5 million to provide funding for small business relief loans in Northern Colorado.
- DreamSpring, Denver, Colo. – \$1 million to provide funding for small business relief loans in Northern Colorado.
- AltCap, Kansas City, Missouri – \$250,000 for a COVID-19 small business relief loan fund for distressed small businesses in the Kansas City area.

Gorynski also announced another round of grants, to be awarded later this spring, will focus on workforce stability. With the surge in unemployment and the changing employment market, many individuals may not have the skills and capabilities to easily re-enter the workforce when the crisis is over. These grants will be awarded to organizations providing individuals with essential workforce development services to enhance their chances for employment. For more information, visit www.fnbo.com/community/

First National Bank of Omaha is a subsidiary of First National of Nebraska. First National of Nebraska and its affiliates have more than \$23 billion in assets and nearly 5,000 employee associates. Primary banking offices are located in Nebraska, Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, South Dakota and Texas. Learn more at fnbo.com and connect with us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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