

**In a year unlike any other, we found strength in working**

*together*



**Partners for Health**  
FOUNDATION

**2020 Report to the Community**

**COVID-19** has challenged each of us, with a disproportionate impact on community members who were already struggling to cover essential expenses. Partners for Health has responded to this health crisis with emergency funding to support the local safety net.



## **Our partners have been resilient, finding ways to meet the needs of the community during this time**



Courtesy of Toni's Kitchen

Toni's Kitchen redesigned its workflow to ensure that individuals and families who were suddenly without income had access to healthy food. Partners for Health, The Schumann Fund for New Jersey, the Montclair Fund for Women, and the Township of Montclair contributed a total of \$80,000 to establish a Matching Fund to incentivize donations to Toni's, and the match was completed within weeks. Toni's Kitchen continues to work with schools and other partners to provide an average of 20,000 meals each week, up from 4,300 meals in 2019.



Saint Peter's Haven Food Pantry in Clifton also had a surge in demand and is now serving 1,200 clients every month. Pantry renovations are planned to maximize their ability to receive, store and distribute food.

When Edgemont Park House closed, the Montclair Institute for Lifelong Learning (MILL) transitioned seamlessly to remote programming in mid-April so that older adults could remain connected and engaged. Thanks to the added capacity of virtual learning, class registrations more than doubled.

With social distancing in place for its gardeners, community gardens flourished in Bloomfield's Milbank Park and Pulaski Park. Surplus produce from designated garden beds is donated to the Park United Methodist Church.

Bloomfield College joined JED Campus, a nationwide initiative to evaluate and strengthen the mental health safety net, address substance misuse, and implement suicide prevention programs. A baseline assessment was completed through virtual meetings, and private spaces are being provided for student teletherapy appointments.



The Senior Livability Initiative in West Orange progressed despite the pandemic, and the Township was formally designated an Age-Friendly community by AARP and the World Health Organization.

On-demand screenings of the documentary *Hungry to Learn*, and a panel discussion on food insecurity and advocacy efforts to address this ongoing health crisis, were presented in partnership with the Montclair Film Festival.



Documentary cinematography by Asad Faruqi & Rudy Valdez

Zufall Health Center's Community Health Worker reduced barriers to seeking primary care services for 200 homeless individuals, helping them navigate the physical and mental health issues that are often accompanied by the challenges of addiction.



Courtesy of Zufall Health Center



Participant Media/Montclair Fund for Educational Excellence

The Montclair Fund for Educational Excellence is hosting virtual community-wide watch and discussion groups for *America to Me*, a documentary film series that focuses on racial inequities through the eyes of students in a suburban Chicago high school that is similar to Montclair High. More than 600 community members have been guided through a personal journey of deepening racial literacy to prepare them for individual and collective action.

Ten nurses at Mountainside Medical Center were recognized with COVID-19 Nursing Awards, given with support from the Josh and Judy Weston Family Foundation.

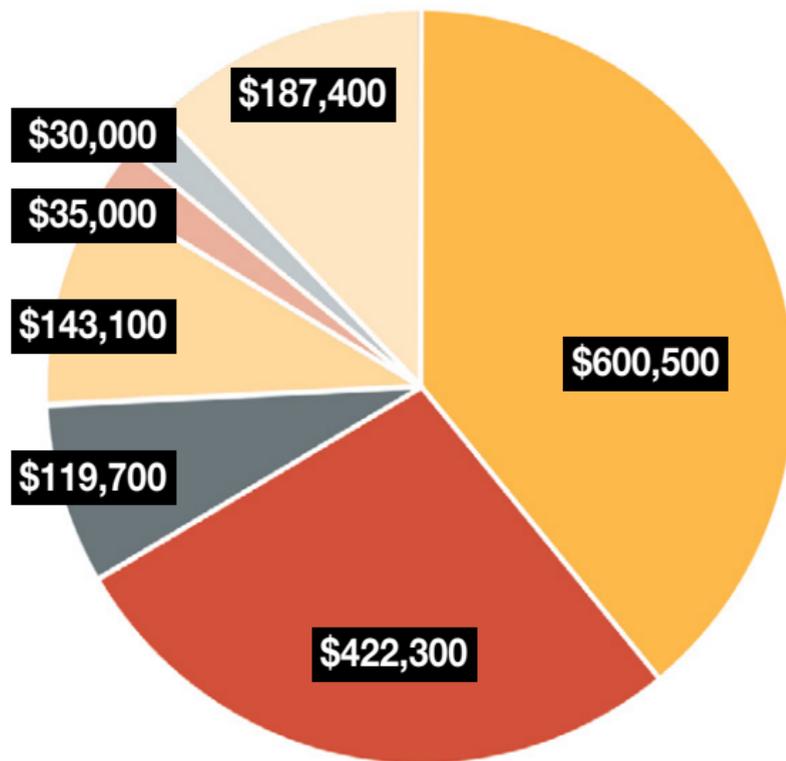
## Funding Allocations in 2020

Partners for Health awarded **\$1.5 million** in 2020, and has made grants totaling **\$14.8 million** since 2008.

Your donation will help us do even more!

**TRIPLE** your impact while supporting lifelong learning with a gift to the Montclair Institute for Lifelong Learning (MILL).

[partnersfdn.org/donate-now](https://partnersfdn.org/donate-now)



- ADDRESSING** hunger and homelessness
- INVESTING** in community change to make healthy choices easier
- CONNECTING** older residents to services and activities
- INCREASING** access to health care/responding to emerging health issues
- PROVIDING** access to oral health care and education
- STRENGTHENING** the mental health safety net
- EDUCATING** nurses through scholarships, and more



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Montclair, New Jersey