

Annual CU FAIR Activity Report from the Executive Director

Zoom General Assembly Meeting

June 11, 2020

Mission Statement

The mission of CU FAIR is to support the resettlement of immigrants, refugees, and political asylees in their transition from dependency to full self-sufficiency.

Outline of the CU FAIR Activity Report

- Highlights from July 1, 2019 – June 1, 2020 of this past year's activities and milestones
- CU FAIR's Pandemic Response Overview of Income Streams and Expenses in Response to the Pandemic
- Partnerships During the Pandemic
- The Immigrant Emergency Assistance Fund: a long-term, community option for sustainable assistance to immigrant families
- Looking ahead to FY 2021
- Call for Volunteers
- Thank you to Donors

Highlights from This Past Year

July – September
2019

- Received grant from the City of Urbana to support Executive Director position
- July 4 Freedom Celebration Parade in support of immigrants
- Independence Day Celebration for Mexico and Central America during Welcoming Week
 - (Urbana Park District, Unit 4, Unit 116, Refugee Center)
 - 300 participants (highest attendance of immigrants during all Welcoming Week Events)
- Expansion of CU FAIR's Free Store at CUPHD
 - Help from Three Spinners and First Presbyterian Church Champaign
 - Increased deliveries to families and pick of furniture and household goods
- Development of Family Liaison team
 - School registration
 - ESL classes
 - Home visits
- Development of transportation pool and transportation guides
 - Increased rides to Chicago and Indianapolis as well as local appointments
- Development of CU FAIR office,
 - Joining Immigrant Cooperative (CUPHD, Three Spinners, New American Welcome Center, Refugee Center and CU FAIR)

This Past Year continued

October – December
2019

- Increased involvement with Legal Assistance for Asylum Seekers
- Immigrant Aid Concert planning with the Office of the Chancellor
 - Partnership with 3 Spinners to raise funds for scholarships for undocumented high school graduates to attend Parkland College
 - Partnership with Pam and Lan Richart and the EcoJustice Collaborative for developing business plan and videos
 - Videos from immigrant students and their advocates from UIUC, Parkland College and Sen. Richard Durbin
 - Help from UIUC SCNO student group for concert marketing plan
- CUFAIR's first audit completed successfully
- Developed draft of Resource Guide for Immigrants with Community Learning Lab social work students
- Joined Charity Tracker
- La Escuelita Project to support MTD and Champaign Unit 4
 - Teaching immigrant parents to navigate bus routes
- Committee formed to improve CU FAIR's Bylaws

Highlights from 2020

- Worked with 18 students from SPAN 232 class with Professor Ann Abbott
 - Students worked on setting up second CU FAIR office for students, translations for resource guide and other documents, with family liaison volunteers, organizing a clothing store for infants and toddlers, housing, and much more.
- Increased involvement of legal assistance for Asylum Cases
 - Lauren Anaya's firm, Immigration Project, UIUC Immigration Clinic
 - Participation of John Wilkie and Lauren Anaya at clinics held at UFL
 - Meeting with National Immigrant Justice Center in Chicago
- Reestablished Newsletter with Carolyn Petersen
- Participated in Poverty Simulation with UIUC SSW
- Improved Website with Katy Mosiman
- Increased Facebook presence with Marci Adelson Schaffer

January – March
2020

Highlights from 2020: CU FAIR's Pandemic Response and Development of the Immigrant Emergency Assistance Fund

- Gov. Pritzker's Stay at Home Order effective March 20th
 - Held Zoom Meeting to Support C-U Immigrants on 4/2 with UUUC's Immigration Task Force with over 40 attendees
- Began to develop partnerships with multiple C-U organizations in response to COVID-19 Pandemic Response
 - Groceries, medicines, health and sanitation supplies deliveries scheduled
 - Emergency Assistance for Rent, Power and Water Bills
 - Development and distribution with CUPHD and PTA Council of educational materials for COVID-19 in Spanish, French and English
- Started Pandemic Response Action Program to deliver to hundreds of families on a weekly basis
 - Support from donors and volunteers from: CU FAIR, PTA Council, CUPHD, EIFB, CIMIC Food Pantry, Promise Health, Salvation Army, Covenant Fellowship Church, CU MutualAid, CU BetterTogether, Unit 4, Unit 116, and others.
- In parallel to our Pandemic Response Action Program, CU FAIR continued to plan and develop a long-term community partnership to address immigrant needs
 - Immigrant Emergency Assistance Fund
 - Founding members include the Immigration Justice Task Force (UUCUC), Bend the Arc C-U, Three Spinners, CU Immigration Forum and other potential faith-based and community partners

April – June
2020

CU FAIR Pandemic Response to COVID 19 continued

- How We Help Families and Individuals in Crisis
 - Same day deliveries to families in quarantine of groceries, medicines, sanitation supplies and diapers
 - Shadowwood distribution site organized where as many as 175 families receive weekly fresh produce, non-perishables, masks, educational materials, sanitation supplies, and diapers .
 - Information about COVID-19 and how to access healthcare resources, testing and emergency assistance in Spanish, French and English
 - Rental and utilities assistance
 - Average assistance \$700 per family
 - Cooperation with CUPHD and Carle to assist individuals testing positive and/or needing hospitalization

Impact on Families

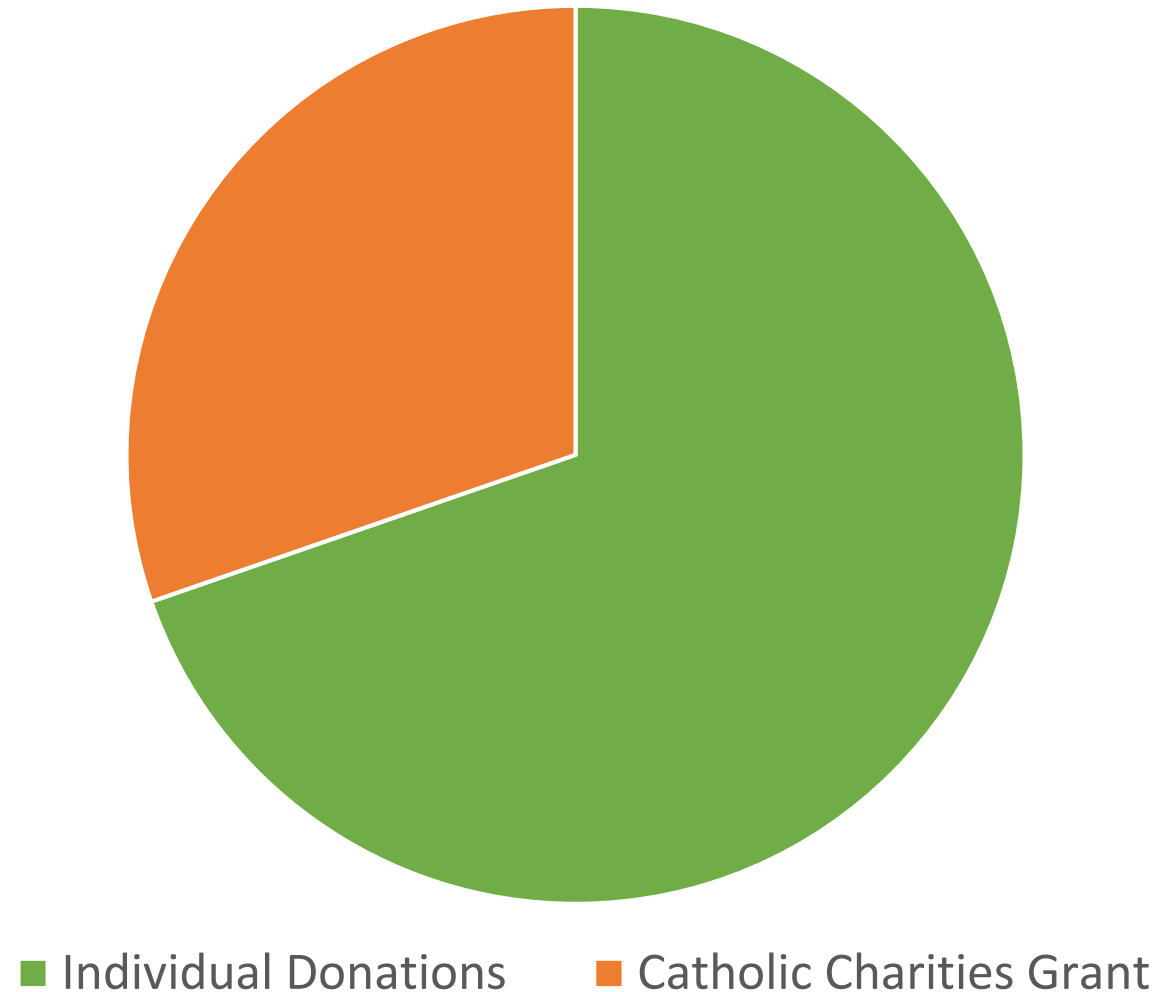
- Nearly 500 families receiving groceries etc. on a weekly basis
 - More than 1,000 family members helped in April and May
- Hundreds of health kits delivered
- Assistance packages average \$70 per family



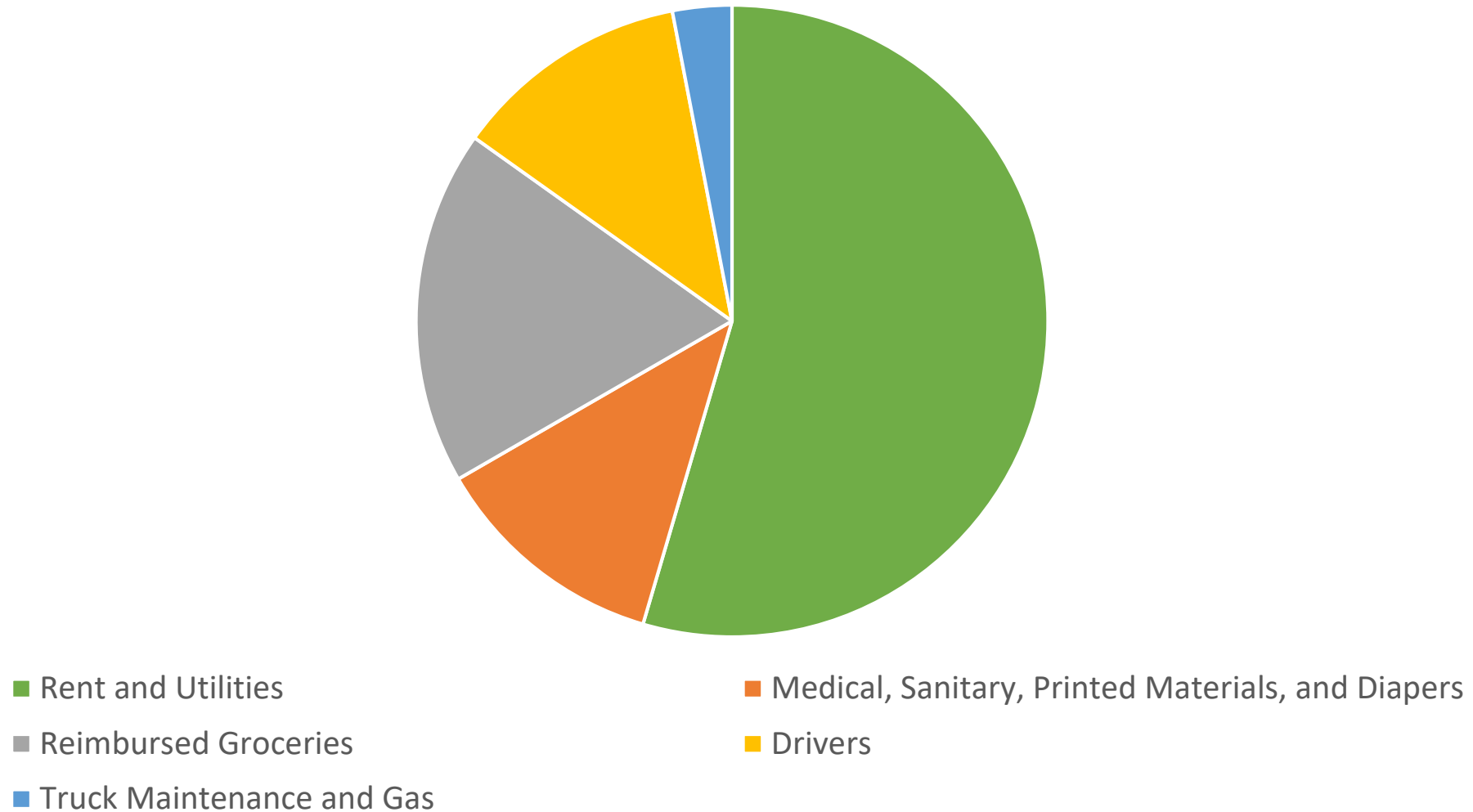
Income

- March 1st – May 31st
 - Raised \$46,000 through donations
 - Individual, faith based, stimulus checks
 - \$20,000 rental assistance from Catholic Charities

Pandemic and Emergency Response Fund



Pandemic Response: Expenses March-June



Partners directly involved in the CU FAIR Pandemic Response

- CU Public Health District
- Eastern Illinois Food Bank
- PTA Council
- CU MutualAid
- Promise Healthcare "Food as Medicine"
- Stone Creek Church
- Covenant Fellowship Church
- Bend the Arc C-U
- Salvation Army
- CIMIC Food Pantry
- Catholic Charities
- UUCUC Immigration Justice Taskforce
- St. Pat's Church
- International Prep Academy
- CU BetterTogether
- Regional Planning Commission of Champaign County
- United Way of Champaign County
- YMCA New American Welcome Center
- Community Foundation of East Central Illinois
- Cunningham Township
- First Presbyterian Church Champaign
- Immigrant Justice Center (Chicago)
- Both School Districts
- Shadowwood Mobile Home Park

Immigrant Emergency Assistance Fund: A Long-Term Option as a Community Response

- Immigrant Emergency Assistance Fund
- Goal to raise \$30K by January 1, 2021
 - Founding community partners
 - Immigrant Justice Task Force UUCUC, Bend The Arc CU, CUFAIR, CU Immigration Forum, Three Spinners
- Ways to donate
 - Number of donors donated their stimulus check
 - <https://www.cu-fair.org/donate>
 - Checks can be mailed to CU FAIR P. O. Box 364 Urbana 61803
 - Checks can be designated to specific funds
- New bank account and Venmo
 - Streamlines reimbursement and donations

CU FAIR Future Activities in FY 2021

- Additional Paid Staff
 - As CU FAIR expands its base of services and outreach to many more families, beyond increased numbers of volunteers it will be important to secure resources for additional paid staff.
 - Volunteer Coordinator(s) with background in volunteer management as well as an immigrant leader with multiple language skills and cultural awareness
 - Office Manager to coordinate the two offices at CUPHD and assist with the Free Store
- CU FAIR Benefit Dinner once large gatherings are safe and a successful end of year donation campaign
- Establishment of a Legal Defense Fund to support asylum cases in partnership with immigrant rights organizations and attorneys
- Branding campaign for the new name of our organization
- Immigrant Aid Concert
 - With the establishment of the “New Normal” for large gatherings and the hope for a COVID-19 vaccine in early 2021 *hope springs eternal* for a concert in the spring of 2021.

Call for Volunteers

- How to Volunteer
 - <https://www.cu-fair.org/join-a-work-team>
- In order to be a volunteer
 - Support the mission of CU FAIR
 - Agree to a background check
 - Must respect privacy of the families we help



Thank You to Our Donors

- Grants
 - Community Foundation Grant
 - Grant for truck
 - City of Urbana Grant
 - Salary Support for Executive Director
 - Catholic Charities
 - Forty families will receive \$500 rental assistance grants
 - CU FAIR will supplement with additional funds to complete if necessary one monthly rent
- For the period January 1, 2020 to June 10, 2020 CU FAIR has received approximately 200 donations
 - **Thanks so much for this tremendous response!**
- Ways to Donate
 - Checks mailed to P.O. Box 364 Urbana, IL 61803
 - Monthly Contributions through PayPal
 - IRA/403b Accounts
 - Soon to be established a CU FAIR Venmo account- the social way to pay
- Donate from our website
 - <https://www.cu-fair.org/donate>