

LunchChat

Connect. Inform. Help.



**Rallying Community Non-Profits
for Collaborative Solutions**

April 9, 2020

Hosted by Rockford Area Convention & Visitors Bureau

Panelists



John Groh
RACVB
President/CEO



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Executive Director



Linda Sandquist
United Way of
Rock River Valley
Vice President



Jennifer Smith
Community Foundation
Of Northern Illinois
Engagement Director

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UnitedWayRRV.org/covid-19

OR

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NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

**Northern Illinois Center
for Nonprofit Excellence**



Pamela J. Clark Reidenbach



- Response to COVID-19 Survey
- 815 Community Response Team Members
- Purpose of 815 Community Response Team
- Funding
 - Rapid Response
 - Recovery & Restoration
- Communication

Response to COVID-19 Guided by data:

- NICNE conducted two surveys to determine the extent of the impact of COVID-19 on nonprofits organizations.
 - 80% of the responding nonprofits (117) reported a significant impact on their programs, services or general operations;
 - 84% anticipated significant impact in the coming months, and expect severe losses due to cancellation of programs and evenings;
 - loss of program revenue, earned income and product sales;
 - inability to meet grant requirements;
 - increase in cost of supplies to keep participants safe; and
 - concern over the availability to access food for participants, PPE, and disinfectant to keep staff and participants safe.

815 Community Response Team

...Stronger Together

Northern Illinois Center for Nonprofit Excellence, convener

United Way of Rock River Valley

Community Foundation of Northern Illinois

The Kjellstrom Foundation

Transform Rockford

The Workforce Connection

Rockford Area Convention and Visitors Bureau

Purpose:

To respond to nonprofit needs and the needs of their participants in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Comprised of funders and community leaders who are strategizing and mobilizing the community to assist charitable and faith-based 501(c)(3) organizations faced with service delivery and operational issues.

The team acknowledges that we have much more leverage as a consortium – that collective efforts do more than individual efforts, and coordination will reduce duplication and expedite results.

Two level funding approach:

Level I – **Rapid Response Fund** – responds to the immediate issues of nonprofits organizations to keep critical support services going and meet accelerating needs of the community.

- Natural Disaster Fund of the CFNIL distributed to individuals and families by the City of Rockford Human Resources Department
- Emerging Needs Fund providing support to nonprofit organizations delivering basic needs to vulnerable populations through the United Way of Rock River Valley for 4 county area.

Two level funding approach:

- Level II – **Recovery and Restoration Fund** – will provide assistance with the organizational and sustainability needs of nonprofits adversely effected by the crisis. Funds being generated by convening donors and grantmakers to assist with:
 - Cancellation of programs and events
 - Disruption of services to clients and communities
 - Budgetary implications related to strains on the economy
 - Increased and sustained staff and/or volunteer absences
 - Loss of volunteers

Funds will be available later in the year when safe to return to work and process is in place.

Communication strategy:

Website – www.815crt.org

Curated Resources

Email announcements from NICNE and United Way

Webinar – Nonprofit Coffee Hour - April 17th at 9:00 a.m. Register on NICNE website at www.niu.edu/nicne under Upcoming Events or at www.815crt.org/news to discuss resources available to nonprofits, hear issues faced by nonprofits, and answer questions specific to the sector.

Linda Sandquist



- Emerging Needs Fund
 - Creation
 - Eligibility & Application
- Criteria

Emerging Needs Fund

Created with a \$10,000 anonymous lead gift and a \$125,000 matching challenge from the Kjellstrom Foundation. Currently asking for contributions.

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Emerging Needs Fund

- Available to all nonprofits in Boone, Ogle, Stephenson, and Winnebago Counties. Orgs must be in existence for three years.
- Easy application available at www.unitedwayrrv.org
- Next deadline is May 1, 2020.
- Contact lindas@unitedwayrrv.org for details.



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Criteria

- Programmatic Response from nonprofits to families and individuals
- Priorities for funding
 - Emergency Supports
 - Basic Necessities
 - Resources for Organizations as they respond to clients' needs
- Must be a 501(c)(3) organization



United Way
of Rock River Valley





Jennifer Smith



- CRT Website & Resources
- “For Nonprofits” Page
- “News/Events” Page
- 815CRT.org

CRT Website & Resources

815CRT partners are committed to cohesive and coordinated activity. This includes coordinated communication.

815crt.org was developed to provide a “one-stop-shop” for information and resources for local nonprofits.



The screenshot shows the homepage of the 815CRT website. The browser address bar displays "815crt.org". The navigation menu includes "Home", "About", "For Nonprofits", "For the Community", "For Funders", and "Connect". A yellow "DONATE NOW >" button is located in the top right corner. The main banner features a photograph of children at a table with the text "815 Community Response Team" overlaid. Below the banner, a paragraph explains the team's mission: "The 815 Community Response Team (815CRT) was convened by the Northern Illinois Center for Nonprofit Excellence (NICNE) in March 2020 to help ensure nonprofits in our region and the people they serve are supported during the COVID-19 pandemic. 815CRT is made up of public and private funders and other partners, working with the nonprofit sector to identify needs and to make funds available for both immediate, emergency needs, as well as needs that will emerge in the near and not-so-near future. [Learn More >>](#)". At the bottom, there are four colored boxes with white text and arrows: "ABOUT THE COALITION" (dark blue), "FOR NONPROFITS" (medium blue), "FOR THE COMMUNITY" (green), and "FOR FUNDERS" (yellow-green).

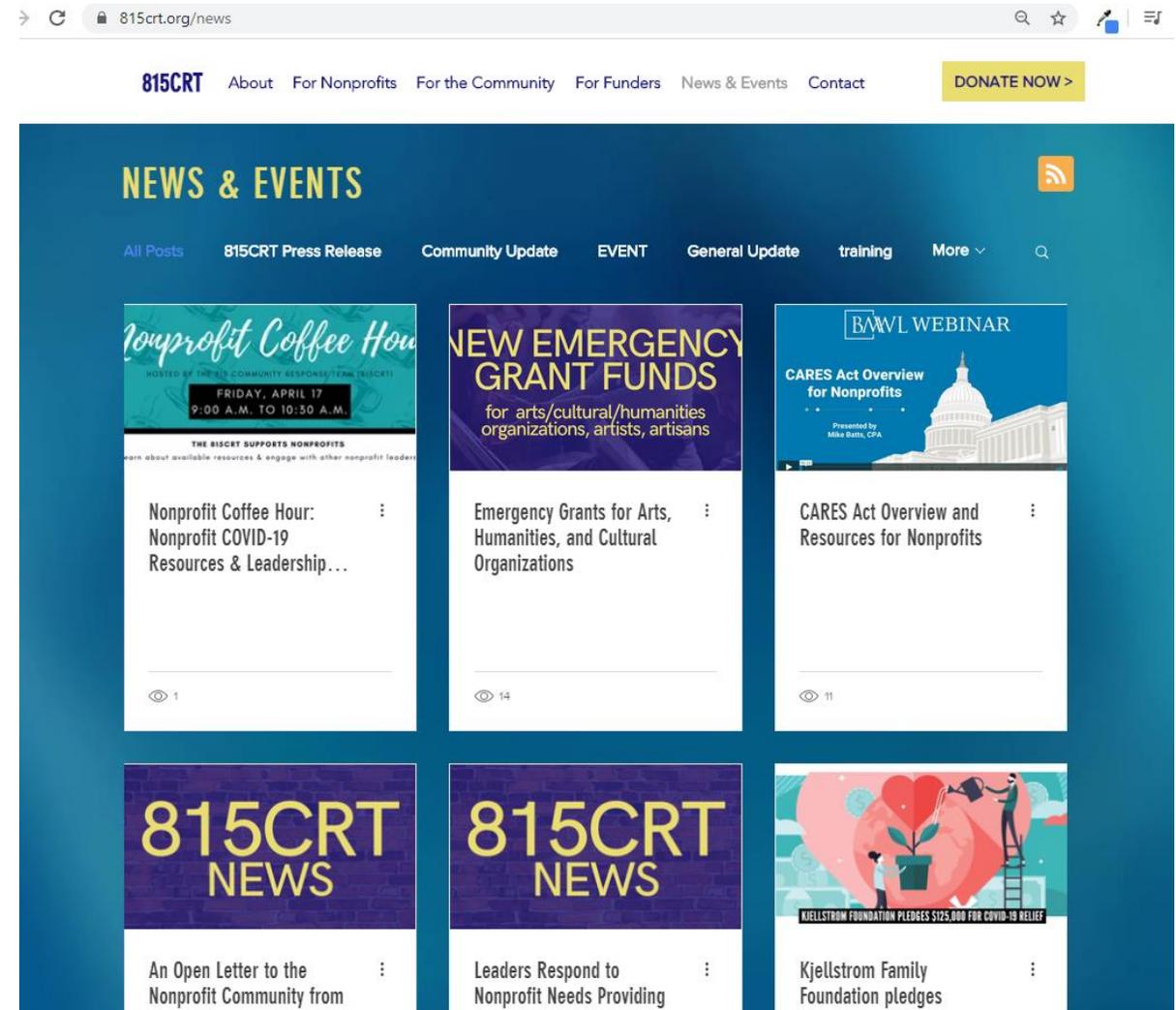


“For Nonprofits” Page

Up-to-date information about local funding, via 815CRT partners and other sources

“News/Events” Page

- Press releases
- Survey results
- Events (local and non-local)
- Useful for nonprofits and funders



815CRT.org

A comprehensive table of resources for nonprofits/funders/community members accessed via button near bottom of each page

The screenshot shows the website 815CRT.org. The navigation bar includes links for 'About', 'For Nonprofits', 'For the Community', 'For Funders', 'News & Events', and 'Contact'. A yellow 'DONATE NOW >' button is on the right. Below the navigation, there is a list of resources, including 'Facebook Small Business Grants Program: [Cash grants and ad credits for small businesses](#)'. A section titled 'FULFILL OTHER NEEDS' lists items like 'Volunteers or Supply Donations' and 'Food Resources'. Below that is a 'COVID-19 CURATED RESOURCES' section with a paragraph of text. At the bottom left, a yellow button labeled 'Access Full Resource List >' is circled in red. To the right is a 'Submit a Resource' form with fields for 'First Name', 'Last Name', 'Email', 'Resource Title', 'Resource Web Link', and 'Brief description', followed by a 'Submit' button.

Q&A

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Tuesdays & Thursdays @ 12 noon

www.gorockford.com/lunchchat

Stay Connected!

Facebook: Go Rockford

www.gorockford.com

covid19@gorockford.com

Rockford Area Resources

GoRockford.com/ResourceCenter

Information about local sites/attractions/restaurants, and resources for families and small businesses

GoRockford.com/LunchChat

Weekly webinars every Tuesday/Thursday



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Thank you!