



## MEMORANDUM

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<b>To:</b>	LFW Grantees
<b>From:</b>	LFW Board & Staff
<b>Date:</b>	March 17, 2020
<b>Re:</b>	COVID-19 Impacts

As we all navigate the rapidly evolving COVID-19 pandemic, here are some details regarding the ways we can support your work in the weeks, and possibly months, ahead.

We understand that organizations have had to cancel clinics and fundraisers, alter office openings, and take other critical measures. Thank you for putting the safety and health of your clients and staff first. We trust each program to make decisions that are best for their staff, program, and community.

We also fully understand that measures such as social distancing and quarantines will affect client service numbers—and that new legal needs are arising from the economic and social changes caused by the pandemic.

**We want you to know that LFW remains committed to providing stable, reliable funding for grantees, with the primary goal of minimizing disruptions in client services.**

The recent reduction in interest rates and economic activity will have an impact on our resources, but they are not unprecedented and we are prepared. Since the Great Recession, we have developed new revenue streams, investments, reserves, and fundraising strategies built to withstand another downturn. We are confident in our long-term financial health and ability to support your vital work.

Civil legal aid is a lifeline during times of crisis, and we would like to amplify the value of your programs to people around our state in this uncertain period. Please keep us in the loop about emerging client needs, including specific stories or examples of case outcomes related to the virus, as well as ongoing decisions regarding services or events, so we can share them with the law and justice community.

Our office is telecommuting, so email is the most effective way to reach us. If your program is also working remotely, please note that we have resources to assist. If you need access to GoToMeetings (online meeting, desktop sharing, and video conferencing) or our conference call line, please email [christal@legalfoundation.org](mailto:christal@legalfoundation.org) to reserve a time slot.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have other specific needs or ideas on how we can support your staff and clients. Thank you all for your work and dedication to our communities across Washington State—we appreciate you!