

News Release

County dedicates \$10 million to nonprofit agencies providing critical human services during COVID-19 pandemic

Commissioner Gershenson celebrates launch of Oakland Together Community Response and Recovery Fund in partnership with United Way for Southeastern Michigan

May 29, 2020, OAKLAND COUNTY, MI. – The Oakland County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution at its May 20 meeting, which was recently signed by Oakland County Executive David Coulter, establishing a \$10 million fund to assist Oakland County nonprofit agencies providing human services support in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"This new fund demonstrates the county's commitment to helping nonprofits and the people those organizations serve," said Vice Chairwoman **Marcia Gershenson** (D-Bloomfield Township). "Through my work with nonprofits, I understand the important work they do with Oakland County residents. I am proud of the Board and administration for taking steps to help these essential organizations with the unexpected expenses this pandemic has brought."

The new Oakland Together Community Response and Recovery Fund will be governed by a bipartisan three-member oversight panel and administered in partnership with the United Way for Southeastern Michigan. Funding for the program has been made available from the federal CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Funds received by Oakland County. Grants will be provided to community nonprofits providing essential human services during the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes organizations that provide shelter, food, childcare, financial stability, and individual health and mental health services.

"We are proud to partner with Oakland County to ensure these dollars are spent as effectively as possible to meet the needs of people across the community," said Dr. Darienne Hudson, president and CEO of United Way for Southeastern Michigan. "We are grateful for the leadership of Executive Coulter, Chairman Woodward and the Board of Commissioners. We look forward to working together to ensure Oakland County families and those across Southeast Michigan can weather this crisis, or any that may arise in the future."

The three-member bipartisan oversight panel includes Commissioner **Helaine Zack** (D-Huntington Woods), Commissioner **Adam L. Kochenderfer** (R-Rochester Hills) and Chief Deputy County Executive Hilarie Chambers. Details regarding the grant application process will be released when finalized.

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