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**For Immediate Release**

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**BARTON ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR CORONAVIRUS RELIEF**

*Barton Foundation Distributing Funds to Help Impacted Community Members and First Responders*

(South Lake Tahoe, CA) – As the coronavirus (COVID-19) brings financial and medical implications to the South Lake Tahoe area, Barton Health and local donors have created a COVID-19 Response Fund to provide relief. The [Barton Foundation](#) is now accepting applications for financial assistance as part of the effort to help South Shore residents, families, healthcare workers, and first responders impacted by the pandemic.

Any resident or first responder in the South Shore area facing personal challenges or financial hardships from the outbreak is eligible to apply for a COVID-19 Response Fund grant.

Consideration for funding will be given to individuals and organizations with proven needs in the following categories:

- Seniors needing assistance due to home isolation
- People with underlying health risks or medical issues
- Food or medical supply scarcities
- First responders and frontline healthcare workers
- Essential employees needing support
- Emergent needs

Applications for COVID-19 Response Fund grants can be found online in English and Spanish at [bartonhealth.org/foundation](https://bartonhealth.org/foundation) and can be submitted electronically or via mail. Applications will be reviewed by the Barton Foundation’s Board of Trustees. While areas of applicants’ proven need will be considered during review, funding will be limited to \$500 per household or organization.

Donations to the COVID-19 Response Fund will continue to be accepted. One hundred percent of donations made to the Barton Foundation COVID-19 Response Fund will be dedicated to helping individuals, families and healthcare workers. Donations can be made by contacting Barton Foundation Executive Director, Chris Kiser, at **530.543.5612**, or online at [bartonhealth.org/foundation](https://bartonhealth.org/foundation). All donations are tax deductible and unrestricted ensuring that grants can be awarded as quickly as possible.

Barton Health encourages everyone to stay informed and follow the state’s guidelines which are posted at [bartonhealth.org](https://bartonhealth.org). If you or a loved one are experiencing symptoms of a respiratory illness, please call the **Barton Health COVID-19 Hotline: 530.600.1999**.

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