Dear Tides Center Social Venture Community,

During this time of challenge and physical distancing, it’s more important than ever that we find ways to connect and support our partners in our work. Many of our partners have reached out about relief and what resources you and your Social Venture have access to as we navigate COVID-19 together. Recently, I shared that Tides has launched the Tides Stronger Together Fund (STF) COVID-19 Response Fund. Tides Foundation established this fund to enable over $1 million in flexible grant funding to go to Tides Center Social Ventures in need. Although we know that the need is great, and this fund alone won’t be able to meet all of our partners’ needs, we’re working diligently to assist as many Social Ventures as possible. To date, Tides has contributed $500K of our own reserves to seed this fund as a matching challenge grant, and we have raised just over $500K from Tides Foundation partners, for a combined total of over $1 million.

Tides Stronger Together Fund overview:
We understand that due to COVID-19 many of our Social Venture partners are suffering unrecoverable losses, cancelling primary revenue-generating events, laying off staff, and being asked to take on added responsibilities, all while witnessing the virus’ inequitable impact on vulnerable populations. The purpose of Tides’ Stronger Together Fund is to support our Tides Center Social Venture partners during this critical time as we move through crisis to recovery and resilience.

Eligibility criteria:
- All current, active Tides Center Social Venture partners are eligible to apply.
- Grants will range between $5,000 - $30,000, with exceptions considered on a case-by-case basis.

Criteria for selecting grantees:
Any Social Venture demonstrating significant financial distress or increased service needs directly caused by COVID-19 will be considered for support. If you decide your organization is a good fit, please fill out this expression of need, where you can also find the full criteria.

We invite interested Social Ventures to reach out to your Tides service team as you prepare your expression of need, and to ask clarifying questions. Please note that this support from the service team is not a guarantee that your grant proposal will be approved. If you have questions about the Stronger Together Fund or the overall process, feel free to respond to this email, or reach out directly to your Advisor for more information.

Other Tides resources:
We understand that the effects of COVID-19 will be felt by our Tides Social Ventures community across 2020 and beyond. Knowing that this emergency fund is not nearly enough on
its own, Tides has compiled a suite of resources that we’ve shared on the Tides COVID-19 Partner portal, which includes resources to navigate remote work, business continuity resources, and links to other emergency response funds. We also invite you to meet with your service team to discuss the current situation and to develop cash flow and budget scenario plans.

Your Tides services team, Advisor, Accountant, and HR Manager are always here to support you and your work, and I welcome any feedback on how we can support you further during this unprecedented time. We are humbled to launch the Tides Stronger Together Fund to support our Social Venture community, and recognize that during times like these, we’re indeed that much stronger together.

Thank you for your continued partnership during this difficult time.

In partnership,

Joel Bashevkin
Director of Social Ventures