



#UNITEDagainstCOVID-19 Appreciation Fund Rewards Associate Dedication

Amid the novel (new) coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), United Methodist Communities (UMC) President and CEO sought an appropriate tactic to recognize and reward associates, particularly those on the frontline. He brought a proposal to UMC's Corporate and Foundation boards. In support of associates' devotion to the organization's mission and values, they unanimously implemented the #UNITEDagainstCOVID-19 Appreciation Fund.

Reflecting gestures of unity and gratitude, the fund is made possible by generous donors, who have banded together to support our associates. The UMC Foundation has received many donations from UMC residents and their families, business partners, churches, associates, board members, organizations, and individuals from the community. The #UNITEDagainstCOVID-19 Appreciation Fund appeal seeks to bolster this fund and bless our everyday heroes.

UMC has taken many steps to help ensure the health and well-being of its residents, clients, and associates — steps that would not be possible without a committed, reliable and skilled workforce. As a not-for-profit delivering senior living and care, residents and clients, as well as their families and loved ones, rely upon associates' steady presence and services.

Nona Ostrove, UMC Corporate Board chair, states, "In so many ways during this pandemic, associates have been nothing short of remarkable. This unanimously-adopted fund will provide additional resources to our most valuable asset — our workforce."

The frontline associates include housekeepers; drivers; receptionists; nursing aides; and dining, maintenance, laundry, and other staff. Beginning on March 29, UMC will pay them a #UNITEDagainstCOVID-19 bonus of \$2.00 for every hour worked. This will stay in effect until the emergency is lifted or April 25, when it will be re-evaluated, whichever comes first.

President and CEO, Lawrence D. Carlson, states, "I am humbled to think about the sacrifice associates make each and every day. Our residents, families and donors thank them for their dedicated and selfless service."