

Dear friends, allies, and partners,

As we hunker down in our homes to ride out the COVID-19 pandemic, you are all very much in our thoughts. We hope that you are healthy, and that you are able to sustain meaningful connections to friends and family, both near and far. We are grateful for the connection we feel to all of you, who make it possible for us to support the Latino immigrant community during this crisis.

Program News and Updates

With your support, we are responding to the impact of this crisis on the Latino immigrant community by shifting entirely to remote operations. We have done our best to maintain our services, while also shifting resources to address the most urgent needs within our community:

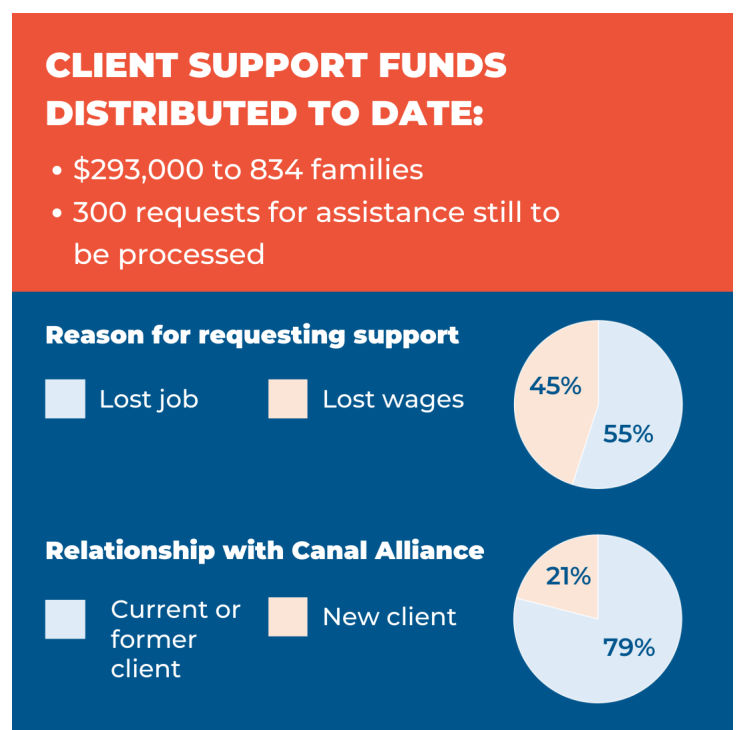
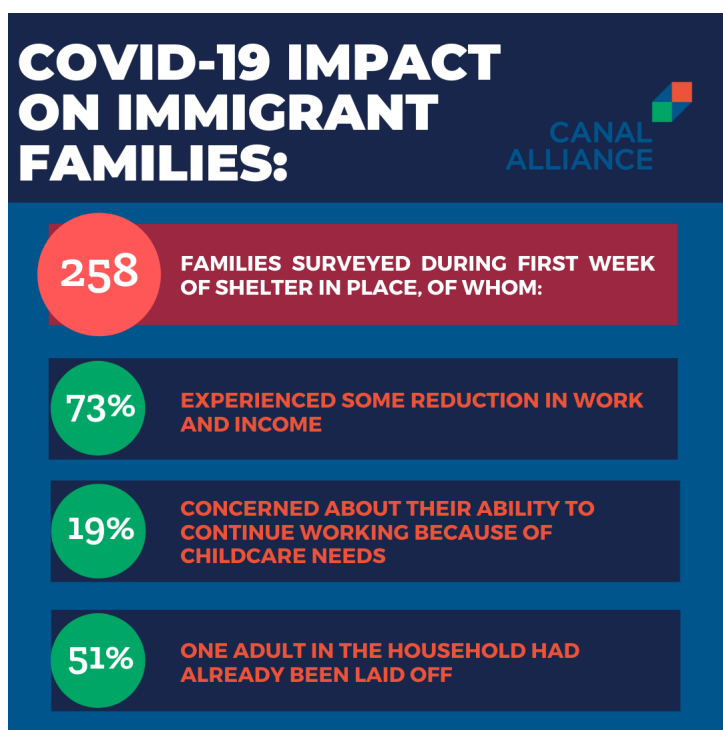
- Our **Social Services** team is on the frontlines of our response to the COVID-19 crisis, addressing the tremendous need for social services in the community. Each day they are responding to over 100 calls, and are helping clients access resources such as applying for rental assistance and unemployment benefits. They are also responding to requests for direct financial assistance from our [Client Support Fund](#).
- After suspending our **Food Pantry** for one week to implement practices recommended by the Department of Public Health, the service started back up on Tuesday, March 24. The food pantry is now serving 500 families each week and is also delivering food to the most vulnerable community members.
- **Immigration Legal Services** transitioned almost overnight to a virtual law office. The team continues to file cases that have deadlines or for clients who may soon age out of programs, such as DACA, and is also responding to new immigration issues that are arising as a result of the crisis.
- After a brief program suspension, **University Prep (UP!)** is now set up to offer online tutoring, social-emotional learning and behavioral health support for all students in alignment with district activities.
- Our **Adult Education and Workforce Development Programs** have been discontinued as we are unable to offer them remotely. Students and their families continue to receive support from our education staff, who are calling families in our programs to assess their needs and connect them to resources and services.
- Our **Census** team is busy working to ensure we still get an accurate count of Marin County residents. The team has continued outreach efforts by mailing postcard reminders, putting out lawn signs in the Canal, and held a Spanish-language Facebook Live event. [Click here to learn more](#).

Please be sure to fill out your census questionnaire, and encourage your family, friends, neighbors and coworkers to do the same!

Client Support Fund

Hardworking immigrants and their families are among those being hardest hit financially as a result of the crisis, and have the least access to resources. To ensure that members of our community have the means to weather this crisis, Canal Alliance launched a [Client Support Fund](#) to support those who have lost jobs and income. All donations will be distributed directly to clients in the form of cash assistance to help them cover their urgent expenses for food, medicine, rent, and utilities.

Based on the number of people who have come to us for assistance, and through client surveys and phone calls for assistance, we know there is an urgent need for direct assistance funds.



Read about one young mother who was helped by a member of the Canal Alliance emergency response team:

"Teresa began to cry the moment she heard I was calling from Canal Alliance. She had just started a job as a nanny for a wonderful family but was no longer able to work and she had no other form of income. She was worried about how she would pay her bills, and was very worried about how to talk to her children about COVID-19 and what impact it would have on them. I explained how she could file for unemployment benefits and access assistance from our Client Support Fund. She was very relieved and grateful to hear that we would be able to provide her with \$350 in financial assistance to help support her family."

With so much need in the Canal community, we would be deeply grateful if you would donate to our Client Support Fund today. Your gift helps families like Teresa's stay in their homes and put food on the table. Your donation also helps families to realize that they are not alone, and that the Marin community is here to support them during this crisis.

[DONATE TO THE CLIENT SUPPORT FUND](#)

If you have already made a gift to the [Client Support Fund](#), thank you again for your generosity! Please help us spread the word about the Fund with your friends, family, and colleagues through email or social media.

Thank you for being a partner in our work and an ally to immigrant families. More than ever, we are inspired by your generosity and grateful for the impact we can make when we come together to support our most vulnerable neighbors.

We send you and your loved ones our best wishes for health, safety, and well-being during this difficult time.

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