

How can we help now?

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Dear friends,

With a new year and the promise of COVID-19 vaccines, there is hope for many of us. Yet, this hope is not there for us all.

For our most vulnerable populations “after COVID” means the end of the eviction moratorium, unemployment benefits, and aid programs that have kept families afloat over the past months. For those not eligible for these benefits in the first place, particularly our undocumented community, the reality is only starker.

Once again, COVID relief checks are flowing into our community. Once again, they partially fill a critical need for some, and completely leave out others.



This year, the Lussier Community Education Center (LCEC) and Centro Hispano of Dane County (Centro) are coming together to make a collective impact. **And we (Karen and Paul) are pledging our personal COVID relief checks today to directly help our families who need it most, those for whom this money will make a significant impact as they recover from this crisis.**

Eligible families will include those connected to Centro through its immigration work and those connected to the LCEC's children/youth programs whose names were not drawn in 2020. We are partnering to expand our impact together and we need you to help make it happen.

Here's how it works:

- Donate part or all of your COVID relief funds on the [special Pledge My Check giving page](#).
- Together we'll randomly draw from among eligible families.
- Together we'll give those families the money. No strings attached, no limitations. Just as it was given to us.

PLEDGE MY CHECK

Last year, 59 donors sent more than \$60,000 in COVID relief funds through Pledge My Check, providing \$1200 each to 51 families with young people in the LCEC's children/youth programs. Families used these gifts to cover back-rent, pay for essential car repairs, buy groceries, and much more.

There are still many families for whom this kind of timely financial boost would make a very big difference.

To redirect your stimulus check to a family who needs it now, [donate on the special Pledge My Check giving page](#).

Thank you for your gift.

Sincerely and in community,

Karen Menendez Coller and Paul Terranova

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