

Essentials Fund

Affording basic essentials — like food, housing, and healthcare — forms the foundation of stability and dignity. Yet roughly 45% of Americans [reported living paycheck to paycheck](#) in 2024.

We see their stories. Every day, hundreds of people start fundraisers on GoFundMe for basic necessities like groceries, housing, and utilities.

Launched in 2020, the [Essentials Fund](#) was created to help individuals move from crisis to stability in the event of a job loss, a sudden medical emergency, or another personal emergency. By sending cash grants directly to people struggling with financial insecurity, GoFundMe.org helps Americans get back on their feet.

Essentials Fund Impact to Date

\$2.6+ Million
raised

18,000+
donors

6,500+
individuals/households
supported with cash grants



For Kelsey G., a professional circus artist, the world changed in an instant when she was hit by a car. She suffered a severe brain injury and was unable to work. As a result of this unforeseen life event, she couldn't pay the monthly rent for the home she shared with her young son. After asking for help on GoFundMe, Kelsey received a grant from the Essentials Fund, giving her much needed cash to put towards her most pressing need.

“Thank you so much, from the bottom of my heart, for donating to the Essentials Relief Fund. Being in a position where I have to ask people for help is very vulnerable, and getting an award like this helps me get closer to my goal and be able to pay my rent while I heal.” — KELSEY G.

Wanda C., a single mother, lost her home and all of her belongings in a house fire. With limited income, she faced the overwhelming task of providing her family of six with housing, food, and clothing. A grant from the Essentials Fund helped her buy clothes, shoes, and food, and secure new housing for her and her family.

Donate All donations to the Essentials Fund are tax-deductible. Donations can be made via credit or debit card, Apple Pay, Venmo, Google Pay, Paypal or DAF. GoFundMe.org also accepts donations via stock, wire/ACH, check, and crypto.

“We are still in need of things, but the basic necessities are for sure covered. Because of the kindness of others, we are doing better.”
— WANDA C.

A registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, **GoFundMe.org** launched in 2017 with a mission to quickly mobilize and distribute donations for individuals and communities impacted by crises, natural disasters, and social inequalities. Since then, GoFundMe.org has worked with partners and organizations to raise over **\$185 million into more than 235 funds, delivering 50,000+ grants** to people with urgent needs, and organizations and programs driving critical social change.