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June 1, 2020

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## United Ways ask families across Texas to complete important survey to assess economic impact of COVID-19

AUSTIN, TX (United Ways of Texas) – United Ways across Texas and the state organization, United Ways of Texas, are launching a statewide survey to assess the economic impact the COVID-19 crisis has had on Texas families. All Texas families are invited to complete the United Way Texas COVID-19 survey at <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/txcovid19impact">www.surveymonkey.com/r/txcovid19impact</a>. The survey is also available in Spanish at <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/spanishtxcovid19impact">www.surveymonkey.com/r/spanishtxcovid19impact</a>.

"Every Texas family has felt the impact of COVID-19 and even though much of our state has re-opened, life remains uncertain. This survey represents an opportunity to better understand the impact that COVID-19 has had on Texans, to help inform state and community leaders in how best to support Texans in need," said Adrianna Cuellar Rojas, United Ways of Texas President and CEO.

Before the pandemic hit, more than one in four Texas households were already struggling, led by workers that were unable to earn enough to cover the basics or to save for an unexpected life crisis or loss of a job. For many Texans, the economic crisis has stripped away family assets and abruptly repositioned families into unfamiliar financial positions. The survey seeks information on a wide range of topics, including the most pressing concerns, job changes, childcare challenges and economic changes that Texas families are navigating.

"On a daily basis, United Ways across our state are focused on helping Texans thrive. With COVID-19, the needs of Texas families, many who were already struggling prior to the pandemic, have been amplified, with disruptions in workforce, childcare, school and overall life," said Cuellar Rojas. "The information gathered from this survey will help inform United Ways and others as we work to respond to both the immediate needs of Texans, and as we look forward to the next phase of recovery and what will be needed most to help get families back on track."

"HEB is committed, now more than ever, to supporting Texans. As a long-time, proud partner and supporter of communities, H-E-B recognizes the importance of seeking out a deeper understanding of the challenges ahead for Texas families across our state. H-E-B and United Way proudly support and encourage Texans Helping Texans," said Bea Lopez, H-E-B Unit Director and United Ways of Texas Board Chair.

The survey takes about ten minutes and includes questions such as: What are you concerned about in the weeks and months ahead? (Check all that apply)

You or a loved one getting COVID-19

Paying rent/mortgage
Paying other bills
Medical issues other than COVID-19
Mental health issue
Children's well-being
Supporting my child/remote learning
Adequate childcare
Getting food and other things I need
The economic health of my community
Attending church or other social gatherings
Other. Please specify.

"If you've felt the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, please take the time to complete the 10-minute survey," Cuellar Rojas said. "United Way wants to listen and learn so we can know how best to help those Texans who have been hardest hit by COVID-19."

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## **About United Ways of Texas**

The mission of the United Ways of Texas is to integrate action and resources for the common good. UWT is an association working with local United Ways across the state representing 254 counties. Together we work across our communities to tackle common challenges that affect our local communities but are bigger than any of us — challenges our entire state faces. Along with United Ways across the country, we are part of a global network of more than 1,800 United Ways, servicing communities in 41 countries. For more information, go to www.uwtexas.org.

## **About United Way of the Brazos Valley**

United Way of the Brazos Valley fights for the health, education and financial stability of every person in the Brazos Valley. They strengthen the community by identifying issues facing the Brazos Valley, engaging individuals to build strategies and mobilizing resources to invest for change. United Way invests through Community Impact Grants to local nonprofit organizations and Investment Initiatives including 2-1-1 Texas, Youth Leadership Cabinet, Baby Bundles and the Financial Stability Innovation Fund. For more information, go to www.uwbv.org.