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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
**In Response to Pandemic-Driven Housing Issues, NCEF Launches an Online Fundraiser  
for NCSD's Emergency Housing Fund**

*From Oct. 4 to Oct. 10, the North Clackamas Education Foundation will solicit contributions to the Emergency Housing Fund, a resource for local families provided by the North Clackamas School District's Family Support Center at the Wichita Center.*

*Milwaukie, Oregon, Sept. 22, 2020*—Since 1992, Milwaukie-based community foundation North Clackamas Education Foundation (NCEF) has raised funds for programs benefiting the students, teachers and families of the North Clackamas School District (NCSD).

Each year, NCEF awards thousands of dollars in scholarships and enrichment project grants, as well as helping to subsidize the NCSD Family Support Center at Wichita's Food Pantry, Clothes Closet, Emergency Housing Fund and other services.

However, the upheaval and economic uncertainty caused by the COVID-19 pandemic have inspired NCEF leadership to change how they're executing their mission, both due to necessity and because they want to step up for the North Clackamas community during a time of extraordinary duress.

"The pandemic and wildfires have exacerbated the housing crisis we already had in Clackamas County," said NCEF Executive Director Stephanie Rose. "In order to truly be there for our students and their families, we're focusing on raising more money for the Emergency Housing Fund and Food Pantry at the Wichita Center, in addition to funding more distance learning projects and giving away larger scholarships."

The Emergency Housing Fund helps families who have students in North Clackamas schools with one-time rent and utility bill payments. Families who lack the money needed for a security deposit can also apply for assistance from the fund.

COVID-19-driven gaps in employment, combined with unemployment benefit shortfalls, have led to an increase in Emergency Housing Fund requests, Rose said. As Oregon reaches the end of its extended eviction moratorium, she expects that applications to the Emergency Housing Fund will become even more frequent.

“Beyond a doubt, we’ve got to refill the Emergency Housing Fund and ensure it’s regularly replenished,” Rose said. “We collect money for it year-round through our website, but we’ll also be holding quarterly fundraisers for it, starting the week of October 4.”

In addition to promoting the Emergency Housing Fund through their usual channels, NCEF will use their newly awarded Google Ads Grant to reach new audiences in the Portland metro area. Potential donors will be encouraged to give through NCEF’s online donation portal, as well as via Facebook.

“Between our annual gala on October 29 and our upcoming fundraiser at Black Rock Coffee, NCEF is busier than ever,” said Rose. “However, refilling the Emergency Housing Fund can’t wait.”

**About NCEF:**

The North Clackamas Education Foundation (NCEF) is an equity-focused community foundation serving the students, teachers and families of the North Clackamas School District.

Supporting more than 17,000 students in 31 schools via classroom enrichment grants, programs for food-insecure families, scholarships and more, NCEF bridges gaps in funding so that students are fully engaged and ready to learn. [Find out more at nc-foundation.org](https://www.nc-foundation.org/).

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