We believe all grantmaking should be inclusive to ALL communities and center around the most vulnerable. An equity lens must include diversity in documentation status and language.

In March 2020, right after the onset of the COVID-19 restrictions in Georgia, we reached out to 4 committed member organizations (Vecinos of Buford Highway, Ser Familia, Dignidad Inmigrante, Coalition of Latino Leaders in Dalton) that pledged to keep the “doors open” and to continue to deliver services to the community they served. This initial cohort of member organizations co-created a 5 point criteria to prioritize the most vulnerable.

We at LCF Georgia have adopted this model and incorporated in all our grantmaking efforts.

**Approach**: Emergency relief AND recovery are not mutually exclusive. There are long-lasting urgent needs disproportionately affecting communities of color and immigrants with limited resources, networks, language and transportation barriers. Approaches tailored to specific cultural, historic, and language needs of communities are critical to address the discrimination and racism against those communities.

**Target Population**: Focus on communities already facing health and economic disparities, if we don’t, we will help perpetuate the inequities that persist in our community.

LCF Georgia understands the following as priority communities:

- Undocumented workers and mixed status families unable to receive other types of relief
- Low-income residents and workers, including those without health insurance and/or access to sick days or from disproportional impacted industries
- People at higher risk health risk from the COVID-19 outbreak, including people over 60 years old, people with compromised immune systems, and pregnant individuals
- People with limited English language proficiency
- Communities of color, prioritizing Black communities
- People with disabilities

**Community Trust**: Fund organizations led by the people they serve. Deep relationships and experience are key.

**Readiness**: Some groups may be volunteer-led or maybe small, but they are willing and ready to be on the front-lines. Larger organizations often times are more difficult to move and pivot. Nobody has experience dealing with a pandemic or a crisis. While established groups and partners maybe your legacy partner, we encourage you to focus on organizations willing and able to deploy resources quickly to meet community.

Questions? gigi@LCFGeorgia.org