



Ford Motor Company Fund Announces Donation Match, Opportunities for European Employees to Help Fight COVID-19

- Ford Motor Company Fund's new COVID-19 Donation Match programme gives employees and others the opportunity to support nonprofits and community groups in more than 20 countries as they cope with coronavirus-related issues
- In Europe, Ford Fund is partnering with Deutsches Rotes Kreuz, in Germany; Mission Bambini, in Italy; Asociatia Club Rotary Craiova Probitas, in Romania; Asociacion Apadrina La Ciencia, in Spain; a community organisation in Turkey; and St Mungo's, in the UK
- Ford Fund's new "Read and Record" virtual volunteering project invites Ford employees around the world to record and submit videos reading a children's book in their own language

COLOGNE, Germany, April 2, 2020 – Ford Motor Company Fund today announced two new and unique opportunities for Ford employees around the world who are eager to give back while honouring stay-at-home recommendations.

The COVID-19 Donation Match programme is a combined effort between Ford Fund and Ford Motor Company Executive Chairman Bill Ford that will match \$500,000 in donations to designated community organisations in the fight against COVID-19, raising a potential \$1 million for groups battling the pandemic across the globe. In Europe, funds are being raised to support a wide range of organisations in Germany, Italy, Romania, Spain, Turkey and the UK.

Ford Fund is also launching a new "Read and Record" virtual volunteering project to create an online library of Ford employees reading children's books for the 1.3 billion children and youth affected by school closures around the world.

"During trying times, Ford employees are used to being the boots on the ground – getting out, signing up and pitching in to help make a difference," said Mary Culler, president, Ford Motor Company Fund. "Even now, while many are sheltering in place at home, our employees are looking for ways to help. These two new programmes offer meaningful ways for employees to give back and join in the fight against COVID-19."

Make a donation to make a difference

Through the COVID-19 Donation Match, Ford Fund is giving Ford employees, as well as their families and friends, an opportunity to make a donation to support nonprofits and other community organisations in their efforts to meet coronavirus-related needs in more than 20 countries around the world.

Managed by GlobalGiving, Ford's longtime disaster relief and global grant-making partner, the programme aims to support community projects in locations that have both a significant level of emergency need and a substantial Ford employee presence. Projects focus on addressing hunger, shelter and mobility needs, providing educational resources, or delivering critical medical supplies and services to communities in need.

Here in Europe, employees will be able to lend their support to a range of organisations*:

- Germany: Deutsches Rotes Kreuz (German Red Cross) has launched an emergency relief fund to provide essential items such as food, toiletries and medicine and offer shopping, delivery and advisory services for the elderly and those in quarantine.
- Italy: Mission Bambini is supporting the education of children in quarantine. They plan to install IT equipment in study aid centres: laptops, tablets and smartphones, for families with fewer financial opportunities and limited IT equipment at home.

- Romania: Asociatia Club Rotary Craiova Probitas supports frontline health workers in the Oltenia region with protective equipment, testing equipment and test kits in response to the COVID-19 outbreak. They also are helping to increase the number of people being tested.
- Spain: Asociacion Apadrina La Ciencia is investigating treatments and vaccines for COVID-19.
- UK: St Mungo's is helping the homeless to find accommodation, food provision, medical support and advisory support.

The \$500,000 in matching funds, which include contributions from Ford Fund and Bill Ford personally, represent the strong commitment of both Ford's philanthropic group and Bill Ford, who started the Ford Volunteer Corps 15 years ago and continues to champion the importance of volunteering and giving back.

Employees and others interested in donating can visit www.globalgiving.org/ford-covid-response to view a full list of participating countries as well as cities across the United States, and to learn more about community projects they can support. GlobalGiving will add new projects and additional details over the coming weeks, so employees are encouraged to check back often for updates.

"Now more than ever, we need your help to ensure those sleeping rough and those in homelessness services are not forgotten and have somewhere safe to stay and to self-isolate to protect them from the coronavirus," said Jay Hunt, St Mungo's. "Whilst this unprecedented situation continues our dedicated colleagues will continue to support and care for those who need our help. We can only provide these vital services with your help."

"While healthcare professionals are making enormous efforts to treat the sick and ill, scientists work against the clock to find innovative treatments against this coronavirus and a vaccine to prevent future infections. Donations will help us to make progress to defeat COVID-19," said Inés Antón, co-founder of Apadrina La Ciencia.

Virtual volunteering

Ford Fund's new "[Read and Record](#)" virtual volunteering project invites Ford employees from around the world to record and submit videos reading a children's book in their own language. The effort is designed to provide Ford employees a way to give back from the safety and comfort of their own homes, and builds on Ford Fund's ongoing efforts to increase literacy and promote a love of reading.

The online library will be catalogued by language, and multilingual employees are encouraged to read in languages other than English. Ford Fund plans to share the library with philanthropic groups that serve children and families.

Ford Fund previously announced it is allocating more than \$1.6 million in resources to help communities and local nonprofits throughout Southeast Michigan and across the United States address hunger, shelter and mobility needs related to COVID-19. Earlier this year, Ford Fund also worked with Ford of China to provide face masks and other protective gear needed during the initial breakout of the virus in China.

As Ford Fund concentrates on taking immediate action at the local level, Ford engineers, researchers and suppliers are designing and manufacturing masks, respirators, ventilators and other critical medical equipment and supplies for healthcare workers, first responders and patients fighting COVID-19. To learn more about the company's recent news and efforts related to COVID-19, click [here](#).

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* Details as regards Turkey-based community organisation were being finalised at time of writing.