



24725 W Twelve Mile Rd, Ste 100
Southfield, MI 48034
(248)478-1700
www.greaterrealtorsfoundation.com

PHASE 2.5 PANDEMIC RESPONSE FOR MEMBERS

Realtors® Helping Realtors®

The Board of Directors of the Greater Realtors® Foundation also provides financial assistance to GMAR members and their families during temporary periods of financial difficulty due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

The Realtors® Helping Realtors® program is designed to give assistance to any eligible individual, couple or family who is in need and fits our criteria. Economic strain can strike anyone for reasons outside of their control. Members who find themselves in such situations are encouraged to seek assistance. Please see below for eligibility requirements and application information.

Eligibility Requirements:

Any present member of GMAR who has maintained their membership in good standing for at least twelve (12) consecutive months preceding their application is eligible to apply.

Maximum Annual Disbursement per Member:

The funds awarded to any recipient shall not exceed \$500.00 during any twelve (12)-month period.

Basis for Requesting Assistance:

- Applications for assistance must be for a specific basic need as determined by the Foundation in its sole discretion. Your application must be accompanied by supporting documentation to establish that the applicant is currently suffering financial hardship.
- The financial hardship must be directly or indirectly related to the COVID-19 Pandemic and/or to circumstances beyond the control of the party making application.

Types of Realtors® Helping Realtors® Assistance:

The Realtor needs or circumstances that will be considered for financial assistance include, but are not necessarily limited to, the following:

- Living expenses.
- Expenses related to your real estate business.
- Medical expenses directly related to COVID-19 that are not otherwise covered by insurance.
- Mortgage or rent payment assistance for individuals who may not be afforded a forbearance option from their mortgage company; and
- Payment assistance with groceries and prescription medication.



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Although not all inclusive, below is a representative list of the sorts of requests that may NOT be approved by the Benevolent Fund for financial assistance:

- Pre-COVID 19 credit card debt.
- Court ordered costs, legal fees and restitution or payment of a civil judgment.
- Costs, expenses, penalties, or fines related to irresponsible actions or criminal activity.
- Private school fees or tuition.
- Child or spousal support; or
- Any debt or expense for illegal activities.

Application Process

- Complete and submit the Realtors® Helping Realtors® application.
- Applicant must provide a letter explaining the need for assistance.
- Applicant must provide one (1) written character reference from a non-family member.
- The Greater Realtors® Foundation Board of Directors will from time to time meet to review, approve, or deny the application. In some instances, additional information may be requested from the applicant.
- The Greater Realtors® Foundation is committed to compliance with all federal, state, and local fair housing laws and will not discriminate against any person because of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, familial status, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or any other specific classes protected by applicable state or federal laws or the National Association of Realtors Code of Ethics.
- Recipient will be requested to provide proof of additional sources of income received since March 24, 2020, if any, or certify in writing that no additional income was received since that date.
- *All information, including the identity of applicants, is confidential and will be redacted by GMAR staff prior to review by the Foundation Board of Directors.*

Disbursement of Funds

The applicant will be notified by staff of decision. If approved, payment will be made directly to the vendors or creditors to whom the applicant owes money. No money is ever given directly to the applicant. The Foundation reserves the right to alter this policy at its discretion and without notice.