



AFSC's Response to Covid-19

Caroline Soffer '20



American Friends Service Committee

The American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) is a Quaker organization based in Philadelphia promoting lasting peace with justice through international and domestic programming.

AFSC's Core Issue Areas:

- International Peacebuilding
- Creating Inclusive Communities
- Defending Immigrant Rights
- Ending Mass Incarceration
- Building Economic Justice
- Justice in Palestine and Israel



The Answer: Race for Rapid-Response Funding

Funders and philanthropic organizations have responded to Covid-19 through Rapid Response grant applications, providing emergency funding to organizations assisting those most directly impacted.

Emergency funding ranges anywhere from 10k-100k.

Organization is key! These applications have varying deadlines and requirements.

Praxis Independent Study - Spring 2020

Site Supervisor: Sok Be

Faculty Supervisor: Marissa Golden

The Issue: Covid-19

The ongoing global pandemic continues to disproportionately affect communities AFSC directly works with, including people of color, undocumented immigrants, and those who are incarcerated.

AFSC Programming ranging from workshops, to protests, to community organizing can no longer occur in the same capacity due to social distancing guidelines.

The Fundamental Question: *How can AFSC's development team best assist programming staff and individual communities?*

My Semester Project:

- Organizing Covid Rapid Response Funder Information
 - *Step 1:* Researching and qualifying funding: determine whether the philanthropic organization matches with AFSC's goals and the mission of the specific program being funded.
 - *Step 2:* If the funder is a good fit: using Excel, organize funder information by AFSC's core issue areas.
 - *Step 3:* Meet with grant officers to discuss next steps, including moving to writing grant applications.

