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RAPPAHANNOCK UNITED WAY APPROVES GRANT TO SUPPORT RAPPAHANNOCK AREA YMCA VIRTUAL LEARNING CENTERS

Fredericksburg, VA – 9/24/2020 – Rappahannock United Way's Board of Directors approved a \$100,000 grant to support the Virtual Learning Centers of the Rappahannock Area YMCA. These Learning Centers will help cover the critical need for schoolwork assistance and schooltime childcare for working families as area schools move toward a hybrid learning plan. Families who are essential workers (teachers, healthcare providers, emergency responders) will be prioritized.

The YMCA will also offer scholarships to families who need assistance paying, through their Open Doors policy. The Virtual Learning Centers of the Rappahannock Area YMCA were developed in collaboration with area schools.

This program focuses not only on maintaining financial stability for working households but also education for students; two of Rappahannock United Way's main areas of focus.

"Rappahannock United Way is proud to continue our long-term partnership with the Rappahannock Area YMCA. This investment of \$100,000 is a focused and deliberate use of Community Impact funds to support our local ALICE population. Working households have been so heavily impacted by the recent COVID19 pandemic. Teachers, emergency responders, and other essential workers in our community are struggling to balance providing vital services in our community, with maintaining financial stability for their own families, and with keeping their children safe and learning. Providing affordable and safe childcare to our local workforce is just one of the ways United Way and the YMCA can work together to support our community during these challenging times," says Sarah Walsh, RUW Chief Impact Officer.

About Rappahannock United Way

Celebrating over 80 years in our community, Rappahannock United Way is a local nonprofit serving Fredericksburg, Spotsylvania, Stafford, King George and Caroline. Rappahannock United Way's vision is a community where individuals and families achieve their potential through Education, Financial Stability and Healthy Living. Together, we can create opportunities for a better tomorrow.