

# LIVE UNITED™

## Emergency Services in Our Community

*America is currently confronting the most severe economic crisis in more than 75 years.*

In Rochester, a growing number of individuals and families are relying on the services of non-profit agencies to help make ends meet. People that have never needed help before need it now.

Rochester's non-profit service agencies are also experiencing severe downturns in this economic climate. According to data from a recent United Way survey of more than 120 greater Rochester non-profit organizations:

- More than 70% of Rochester-area non-profit organizations have seen flat or decreased revenues in the last six months. The largest source of revenue decreases came from reductions in state and local funding. Decreases in personal and corporate giving also played a critical role in the funding shortfalls.
- In response, over 80% of agencies have already taken steps to fill these voids including eliminating programs, reducing services, lowering operating expenses and/or workforce reductions.
- Nearly one-quarter may be forced to use reserve funds to continue providing services to the community.
- Emergency agencies who supply food, shelter and clothing, will be especially affected by increased needs, with 93% surveyed anticipating increased service demands this year.

Many of Rochester's emergency service agencies are already seeing an unprecedented increase in the number of people coming to them for assistance, particularly from the newly unemployed. In some cases, these providers have already been forced to turn people away.



**United Way  
of Greater Rochester**