



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Kate Sowell at 512.842.9674 or [barnabasdirector@gmail.com](mailto:barnabasdirector@gmail.com)

**THE BARNABAS CONNECTION RECEIVES \$25,000 GRANT**  
***Funds from St. David's Foundation will support those impacted by COVID-19***

**Wimberley, Texas, October 01, 2020:** The Barnabas Connection is pleased to announce that it was chosen as 1 of 77 recipients of St. David's Foundation COVID-19 Recovery Fund. Recipients of Phase I of the Recovery Fund prioritized immediate needs for those most impacted by COVID-19 including access to basic needs (e.g. food access, rent/financial assistance), healthcare (e.g. dental, mental and primary care) and factors which contribute to the social determinants of health (e.g. education and transportation).

Founded in 2004, The Barnabas Connection provides direct financial assistance to individuals and families, and during the COVID-19 crisis has assisted with funding for needed medical and support supplies, food security for children and the elderly, and advocacy for community members in need through a volunteer-staffed, phone-based referral service that connects clients in need with helpful resources. The grant from St. David's Foundation comes at a critical time for our community. The funds will go to an Emergency Fund to help cover basic needs such as rent, house payments, medical bills, utility bills, and necessities needed for families and individuals who have lost income and jobs and have been directly impacted by COVID-19 - some of whom have been out of work for months now or have multiple family members suffering from COVID-19.

"We are so grateful to receive a grant from St. David's Foundation," said Kate Sowell, Executive Director for the Barnabas Connection. "As our community faces unprecedented challenges amidst the pandemic, as evidenced by a 90% increase in calls to our HELPLine, these funds will directly allow us to continue to serve our neighbors in need."

To learn more about the work and services provided to the community by the Barnabas Connection, please visit: [www.barnabasconnect.org](http://www.barnabasconnect.org) or <https://www.facebook.com/barnabas.connection>

### **About the Barnabas Connection**

Based in Wimberley, Texas, the Barnabas Connection provides health and human services, client advocacy and community education to prevent and meet the needs of families in crisis. Through several layers of service, they offer advocacy with local utility providers and county and government services, host annual events meeting specific community needs and direct financial assistance to clients. The Barnabas Connection continues to serve more families each year and expand programs to better meet evolving needs of the community. The Barnabas Connection is a 501(c)(3) organization governed by a board of directors with members from the community at large and ecumenical partners.



### **About St. David's Foundation**

St. David's Foundation is one of the largest health foundations in the United States, funding \$80 million annually in a five-county area surrounding Austin, Texas. Through a unique partnership with St. David's HealthCare, the foundation reinvests proceeds from the hospital system back into the community, with a goal of advancing health equity and improving the health and well-being of our most underserved Central Texas neighbors. To read more about St. David's Foundation COVID-19 Recovery Fund Grant, please visit [here](#).