Foellinger Foundation Announces $25,000 Innovative Rapid Grant to Visiting Nurse

Foellinger Foundation announces that it has awarded Visiting Nurse a $25,000 Innovative Rapid Grant to expand the organization’s grief outreach and programming specific to the impact of COVID-19 on our community.

The grief services will be offered community wide at no cost, with a focus on employees of nonprofit organizations, first responders and direct healthcare providers.

In addition to home health, palliative and hospice care, Visiting Nurse provides grief support for adults in our community who have experienced the loss of a loved one, with individual counseling, support groups and programs available.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had an enormous impact on how individuals grieve—particularly those who have had loved ones pass away in a hospital or a long-term care setting, without the ability to spend precious time together or attend the loved one’s funeral.

“Foellinger Foundation has honored the intent of Helene and Esther Foellinger by strengthening Allen County nonprofits who serve our residents—particularly those with the greatest need. This incredibly important work certainly meets that criteria,” said Cheryl Taylor, President, Foellinger Foundation.
Leslie Friedel, Visiting Nurse CEO said, “We acknowledge this complicated grief will extend long after any of us can expect. We are all in a heightened state and the stress of all that is going on may be a protective measure for these families/organizations. We know grief hits in waves and this pandemic will make the healing even harder.”

Visiting Nurse’s grief team has developed an education webinar on complicated grief. The first of this series is set to take place on April 30, 2020 at 12:00pm. You can learn more by visiting www.vnfw.org/event.

Please see Foellinger Foundation's website for other Critical Response Grants opportunities (foellinger.org/covid19).

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About Foellinger Foundation

The Foellinger Foundation is a private, charitable foundation that invests in excellence by providing grants, leadership training, conferences, workshops and thought-leading speakers to strengthen nonprofit organizations that serve Allen County. The Foundation was created in 1958 by Helene Foellinger, The News-Sentinel publisher from 1936 to 1980, and Esther Foellinger, her mother. Visit Foellinger.org for more information.