

# SEPTA Media Relations

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## **SEPTA Launches Fund to Help Families of Employees Impacted by COVID-19**

### ***Partnership with Philadelphia Foundation & Delaware Valley Regional Economic Development Fund***

PHILADELPHIA (July 27, 2020) – SEPTA has partnered with the Philadelphia Foundation and the Delaware Valley Regional Economic Development Fund to create a fund to help the families of employees who have been impacted by COVID-19.

The SEPTA Disaster Relief Memorial Fund was launched in large part due to feedback from employees who wanted a way to help the spouses, children and other loved ones of co-workers who have died or were severely ill.

“SEPTA employees are incredibly generous,” said SEPTA General Manager Leslie S. Richards. “Throughout the pandemic, we have heard from employees who have asked how they can help the families of their co-workers. Our goal with this fund was to create a meaningful way for them to provide support to the families of their friends and colleagues who have died or suffered severe health impacts as a result of COVID-19 related illnesses.”

An independent committee of employees will advise on the distribution of funds held at the Philadelphia Foundation. The fund has been launched with a generous donation of \$10,000 by the Delaware Valley Regional Economic Fund and will accept contributions from the public through the Philadelphia Foundation website.

“As the region’s community foundation, Philadelphia Foundation is pleased to facilitate this remarkable and generous community effort,” said Pedro A. Ramos, President & CEO of Philadelphia Foundation.

SEPTA families affected by COVID-19 prior to December 31, 2021 are eligible to apply for funding. Donations can be made by members of the public as well as employees. Those who wish to give to the Fund can do so either by name or anonymously. Donations can also be made in honor or in memory of a specific employee.

Contributions to the Fund should be made online at [https://www.philafound.org/give-now/?give\\_cause=SEPTA%20Disaster%20Relief%20Memorial%20Fund](https://www.philafound.org/give-now/?give_cause=SEPTA%20Disaster%20Relief%20Memorial%20Fund). Contributions by check will also be accepted. Checks should be made payable to “Philadelphia Foundation” and must identify “SEPTA Disaster Relief Fund” on the memo line and sent to: PO BOX 826728, Philadelphia, PA 19182-6728.

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