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SAINT PAUL & MINNESOTA FOUNDATION ESTABLISHES FRONTLINE FAMILIES FUND IN PARTNERSHIP WITH EPIDEMIOLOGIST DR. MICHAEL OSTERHOLM

*Fund Will Provide Financial Support to Families of Frontline Healthcare Workers
Who Have Lost Their Lives to COVID-19*

ST. PAUL, Minn. – Nov. 16, 2020 – The Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation (the Foundation) today announced creation of the Frontline Families Fund in partnership with epidemiologist Dr. Michael Osterholm. Osterholm is Regent Professor and director of the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy (CIDRAP) at the University of Minnesota and a newly appointed member of President-elect Joseph R. Biden's coronavirus task force.

Osterholm said goals for the Frontline Families Fund are to provide direct financial support to families and scholarships for post-secondary education to the children of the nearly 1,400 frontline healthcare workers who have lost their lives to COVID-19, and shine a light on the pandemic's disproportionate burden on Black, Indigenous and People of Color.

"I'm deeply troubled by the steep toll COVID-19 is taking among our frontline healthcare workers," said Osterholm. "We can never make right what happened to these families. But we can do something for them as they have been there to care for us. This pandemic is so painful. We need a pandemic of caring to take it on."

Jeremy Wells, senior vice president of philanthropic services for the Foundation, said the Foundation is honored to collaborate with Osterholm on this important philanthropic initiative. "Mike has identified urgent needs and profound inequities created by the pandemic. We are mustering the Foundation's resources to get the fund into operation quickly, enlist additional partners and orchestrate further awareness and fundraising campaigns," said Wells.

Other partners in the fund are:
• Scholarship America for administration of post-secondary scholarships through the fund; and
• The Brave of Heart Fund to collaborate in making relief grants to families.

Eligible families can access grants through the fund's website: frontlinefamiliesfund.org.

Information regarding the scholarships will be available in coming months via the fund's website and through the fund's scholarship partner, Scholarship America. Plans are for scholarships to be available beginning in the 2021-2022 academic year.

The Frontline Families Fund is accepting donations from individuals, families, businesses and foundations. To donate, visit frontlinefamiliesfund.org.

Osterholm and Wells will be available via videoconference at 10:00 am CST today, Monday, Nov. 16, to take questions about the Frontline Families Fund. Registration is required and can be made at: https://spmcf.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Dy73I1aFRgKN4p8pCWbeYA

Editor's note: Additional information about the Frontline Families Fund, including a downloadable fund logo, images, fact sheet and video are available in the media pressroom at: frontlinefamiliesfund.org

About the Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation
The Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation believes in the best of Minnesota and the power of its communities. With roots in Saint Paul and partners across the state, it is Minnesota's largest community foundation and the partner of choice for thousands of donors, nonprofits and community organizations. The Foundation aspires to create an equitable, just and vibrant Minnesota where all communities and people thrive by inspiring generosity, advocating for equity, and investing in community-led solutions. Visit: spmcf.org

About the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy
The Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy (CIDRAP) is a global leader in addressing public health preparedness and emerging infectious disease response. Founded in 2001, CIDRAP is part of the Office of the Vice President for Research at the University of Minnesota. Visit: www.cidrap.umn.edu

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