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A WEEKLY JOURNAL WRITTEN BY RESIDENTS OF YOUR COMMUNITY

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Area foundation launches emergency fund

BY ROBERT VAUGHAN

Dunham Fund

The Dunham Fund has established the Dunham Emergency Assistance Fund to help address the increase in demand of basic human needs services during the current economic challenges facing Aurora.

The Dunham Fund is an Aurora foundation that provides financial support to qual-

ifying organizations devoted to education, enterprise and community development.

The emergency assistance program will be administered by the Fox Valley United Way of Aurora and was seeded from a \$50,000 donation from the Dunham Fund.

The program includes a commitment to match every dollar raised by United Way up to \$100,000.

The commitment has the potential im-

pact of providing up to \$250,000 in emergency funds to be distributed by the end of the year.

"We hope other members of our community join us to help deliver life-changing services directly to those most in need and that this program is the first of many where we can work together to bring about positive change," said Ryan Maley, chairman of the Dunham Fund board of advisors.

At a community breakfast March 23, the Dunham Fund and Fox Valley United Way challenged local businesses, organizations and individuals to contribute to the fund in order to maximize the \$100,000 matching component of the program.

"This is terrific news for our local communities at a time when the number of individuals and families seeking emergency

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Dunham

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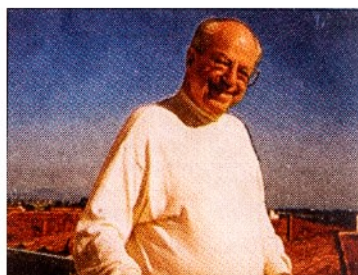
food and shelter services has almost doubled from just a year ago," said Michael Meyer, United Way's chief executive officer.

Dunham Fund is collaborating with Fox Valley United Way to help identify nonprofit agencies providing food and shelter services to those most affected by the current

economic climate.

Meyer said "the grants will be proactively awarded and that there will be no application process required of nonprofit agencies to obtain emergency funding."

United Way will distribute no more than 20 percent of the fund's total value to any one organization. Contributions may be made to the fund online at www.uwfoxvalley.org or by check to Fox Valley United Way, 40 West Downer Pl., Aurora, IL, 60506.



The Dunham Fund is named for the late John Dunham, an Aurora businessman and philanthropist.

Photo submitted by Dunham Fund