

RESOLUTION NO. CC-2020-27

"A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CREATION OF A GRANT PROGRAM TO ASSIST STILLWATER RESIDENTS EXPERIENCING FINANCIAL HARDSHIP DUE TO COVID-19."

WHEREAS, a large number of Stillwater residents have endured negative economic impacts from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the City of Stillwater has applied for and received \$3,877,058 in Federal CARES Act reimbursements; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that development of a financial aid program to assist Stillwater residents that have experienced financial hardship as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic serves a public purpose; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that \$150,000 of the funds received from the CARES Act reimbursement should be allotted to grants for Stillwater residents experiencing financial hardship due to the impacts of COVID-19.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STILLWATER:

Section 1. The City Council hereby creates the "Stillwater Resident COVID Impact Assistance Program" and adopts the program requirements and administration attached hereto.

Section 2. The City Council has directed the transfer of \$150,000 from the CARES Act reimbursement for administration in accordance with this resolution and adopted program requirements.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 14th day of December, 2020.

CITY OF STILLWATER, OKLAHOMA
a Municipal Corporation

WILLIAM H. JOYCE, MAYOR

(SEAL)

ATTEST:

TERESA KADAVY, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY THIS 14th day of December, 2020.

JOHN E. DORMAN, CITY ATTORNEY

Stillwater Resident COVID Impact Assistance Program

Due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, a large number of residents have sustained and continue to sustain devastating economic losses causing them to be in need of immediate assistance. In an effort to make a positive impact in the lives of Stillwater residents, the Stillwater City Council has appropriated One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000) to provide financial assistance to Stillwater residents experiencing financial hardship as a direct result of COVID-19.

I. Grant Program Requirements

Eligibility Requirements & Qualifying Expenses:

- Applicants must be a resident of Stillwater within city limits.
- Applicants must be able to demonstrate direct economic loss or financial impact due to COVID.
 - Examples of acceptable forms of proof include: Documentation to show loss or reduction of income, loss of employment, increased expenses due directly to COVID medical bills; pay stubs showing reduction of income
- Financial assistance may be provided only for the following expenses:
 1. Utility bills (For purposes of this program only the following utilities are eligible: water and related charges, electric, gas, propane, and waste management)
 2. Rent and/or mortgage payments for a primary residence in Stillwater
- The eligible expenses must be incurred during the period that begins on March 15, 2020 and ends on January 25, 2021.
- Stillwater residents are only eligible to receive funds once during this time period.
- Maximum grant amount per household is One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500).
- Grant payments may be taxable to the grant recipient.

Application and Award Process:

- Applications open as early as Wednesday, December 16 and close Monday, January 25, or until program funds have been exhausted.
- Application completed and submitted to the program administrator.
- Program administrator reviews the application to determine if the applicant and expenses meet eligibility and program requirements and then approves or denies the application accordingly.

II. Grant Program Administration

- Stillwater will contract with Community Resourcing Inc. doing business as Our Daily Bread (hereinafter "ODB") to administer the "Stillwater Resident COVID Impact Assistance Program."
- ODB shall not make any payments to individual grant recipients under any circumstances. ODB will make payments directly to the vendor (i.e. utility company, landlord or mortgage lender) directly on behalf of grant recipients.
- ODB shall be required to keep program records and to provide a weekly program report to the Stillwater City Manager or his designee which at a minimum shall include the number of applications received, and the number and amounts of grants awarded. ODB shall also make a comprehensive report to City Council following the completion of the program.