

**Post CARES Act Funding Plan to Address Food Insecurity and Eviction Prevention**

November 24, 2020

In response to the gap created in housing and food supports by the termination of CARES Act funding on December 31<sup>th</sup>, the following actions are recommended to serve those in greatest need.

**Food Security Efforts**

In order to reach the largest number of people and to maximize other resources it is recommended that the collaboration with ALIVE! for large scale monthly food distribution events, home deliveries and local pantry supply and support be continued. With additional funding of \$375,000 it is estimated that 12,000 to 14,000 individuals per month would be served through April 2021. Food costs have been increasing and some adjustments to the type of food and or number of events may need to be made if this trend continues.

The distributions would take place through the following channels:

<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>FREQUENCY</b>	<b>PEOPLE SERVED</b>
Large Scale Distribution <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cora Kelly</li> <li>• NVCC</li> </ul>	2 per month	8,000 total
Pop-up Distributions—in key areas of need	2-3 per month	800-1,000
Supplying Pantries and Open Tables: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Casa Chirilagua</li> <li>• Charles Houston</li> <li>• Christ Church</li> <li>• Christ House</li> <li>• Community Lodgings</li> <li>• Meade Memorial</li> <li>• Mt. Jezreel</li> <li>• Oakland Baptist</li> <li>• Old Presbyterian Meeting House</li> <li>• Old Town Community Church</li> <li>• Ruby Tucker Center</li> <li>• Washington Street UMC</li> <li>• West End</li> </ul>	Monthly+	4,000-5,000
Groceries for Seniors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ladrey</li> <li>• Annie B. Rose</li> </ul>	1 per month	220
Food for Quarantined Individuals and Families	As needed	200+

## **Rental Assistance and Eviction Prevention Approach**

The Office of Housing and the Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS) have worked together to respond to the significant housing security needs of residents brought on by the pandemic. Through extensive collaboration and maximizing all resources it has been possible to serve more residents and to provide more comprehensive package of resources in order to prevent eviction. This has included specific coordination of resources with individuals needing multiple sources of funding to address housing and utility costs, eligibility determination assistance, and targeted outreach to properties with high rates of residents engaged in the eviction process.

This collaborative approach would continue going forward assuring that all available federal and state dollars would be utilized and that those individuals in greatest need would be assisted. The program would focus on those who are already engaged in the eviction process and who are at greatest risk of homelessness if they lose their housing. Staff would use the most current information to identify those individuals who are in the later stages of the eviction process to ensure the resources are reaching those most in need. Staff will continue to build relationships with landlords to provide information on the rental assistance available at the state and local levels. Northern Virginia Legal Services will continue to provide the weekly eviction list and the Office of Housing will conduct outreach at the courthouse to identify those who need assistance. In addition, DCHS staff will continue to work with the emergency community providers to identify and serve those with the most at risk of losing their housing.

It is recommended that \$625,000 be used to provide rental/eviction prevention assistance through DCHS' Office of Community Services to benefit 200 individuals and families facing eviction and most at-risk of homelessness. Community Development Block Grant COVID-19 (CDBG-CV) funds and all other resources will be accessed when possible to meet the needs of additional residents.