



COLLIN COUNTY
collincountytx.gov

COLLIN COUNTY CARES ACT
SUPPORT FOR HOMELESS HOUSING & SHELTER AGENCIES
COVID-19 RESPONSE & RECOVERY

Housing & Shelter non-profits serve as 1st responders to homeless individuals impacted by COVID-19.

The cost of providing housing, shelter, response and recovery support is being borne by these non-profits.

To mitigate the adverse impact on Collin County non-profits and increase effectiveness of Collin County COVID-19 Response and Recovery, a request is respectfully made for the Collin County Commissioner's Court to consider an allocation of CARES Act funds for **Housing & Shelter COVID Response & Recovery**.



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Homeless Housing & Shelter Agencies Represented:

- Agape Resource & Assistance Center
- City House
- Emily's Place
- Hope's Door New Beginning Center
- Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance
- Shiloh Place
- The Samaritan Inn
- Veterans Center of North Texas
- Other housing & shelter agencies that provide COVID response & recovery services



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COVID IMPACT EXPERIENCED BY THE SAMARITAN INN:

- **Personnel:** *Redeployed family caseworkers to assist students with schooling (Spring/Fall start-up).*
- **Food Service:** *Increased costs to support contactless meal delivery; more residents on-site during meal service*
- **Shelter supplies:** *extra cleaning supplies, extra hygiene and personal supplies(masks, gloves) to meet increased demands*
- **Technology:** *additional internet bandwidth and licensing fees*
- **Utilities:** *primarily trash/waste services*



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- **Since March 19, 2020:**

69 applicants (unduplicated) affected by COVID (lost housing, employment; 36 applicants accepted into Samaritan Inn program

- Took in 9 students from N.Texas Job Corps (federally-funded program) when their program shut-down in March
- Cared for residents who were either COVID positive or COVID probable
- Managed schooling and childcare for over 40 children
- Increased efforts to increase fundraising due to loss of Special Event revenue (\$100K) and closure of thrift store (\$80K)



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COVID-19 IMPACT EXPERIENCED BY CITY HOUSE:

- Additional cost of increased counseling for children and young adults due to COVID-19 related stress & trauma.
- Additional cost of hotel nights to allow candidates to isolate while waiting COVID-19 test results and/or for a spot to open at one of our homes.
- Additional cost to conduct COVID-19 testing for our current and/or future clients.
- Additional cost of cleaning, protection materials & remote operation response (e.g. added cost of WIFI for staff & families, computer support, monitors).
- Re-Deploying and/or increase direct care staff to serve as the teacher in the shelter operation.



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COVID-19 IMPACT EXPERIENCED BY HOPE'S DOOR NEW BEGINNING CENTER

CLIENTS SERVED

March – September 2019
1,690

March – September 2020
1,137

33% Decrease In Clients in the Same Time Period

Increased Barriers:

- Childcare & Schooling
- Isolated with Abuser and Others
- Lack of technology access
- Loss of job
- Health concerns accessing public services
- Health concerns accessing a homeless shelter
- Increased opportunities to exert power & control
- Lack of shelter space



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COVID-19 IMPACT EXPERIENCED BY HOPE'S DOOR NEW BEGINNING CENTER

COVID-19 Impact Assessment for 35%
(391) of Clients Completed

- 45% received shelter services
- 23% received outreach services
- 23% received housing services
- 9% received BIPP services
- 51% received COVID-19 Trauma support in counseling
- 34% received specific advocacy support as result of COVID-19
- 14% received specific case management services



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COVID IMPACT EXPERIENCED BY AGAPE RESOURCE & ASSISTANCE CENTER:

- Agape COVID-19 Re-Entry
 - Additional cost of housing for Agape graduates impacted by COVID-19
 - Additional cost of case management to Agape COVID-19 Re-entry families for COVID response & recovery support
- Additional cost of increased counseling for women AND children due to COVID-19 related stress & trauma
- Additional cost of hotel nights to allow candidates to isolate while waiting for space in Agape or to prevent women / children from being unsheltered
- Additional cost of cleaning, protection materials & remote operation response (e.g. added cost of WIFI for staff & families, computer support, monitors)



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We respectfully request the Collin County Commissioners Court designate \$2 million of CARES Relief Act funds for Collin County Housing & Shelter COVID-19 Response & Recovery.

We request that such allocation be distributed through grants administered \$1 million each through the United Way of Metropolitan Dallas & Communities Foundation of Texas to housing & shelter nonprofit organizations that provide COVID-19 response and recovery services to residents across Collin County.

*See attachments for suggested grant requirements which have been patterned after the existing CARES allocation for non-profits made by Denton County Commissioners.

<https://www.unitedwaydenton.org/DentonCountyCARES>



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In order to be eligible for grant funding, agencies must meet the following criteria:

- Must be 501(c)(3) organization that houses and shelters the homeless
- Must provide services in Collin County
- Must provide services that address immediate response or long-term relief efforts through December 30, 2020, in response to COVID-19



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Examples of activities or services that will be considered for funding through this opportunity are listed below:

- Ensuring safe shelter and/or housing assistance for persons experiencing homelessness or domestic violence (shelter or hotels) and/or do not qualify for EHLA
- Providing mental health support and telehealth access for residents in shelter/housing agencies
- Providing cleaning supplies and PPE to support COVID-19 response and residents in shelter/housing agencies
- Large system supports that include ensuring available technology for remote learning and remote operations
- Providing funding to assist agencies with domestic or child abuse cases
- Increased cost of staffing capacity, infrastructure, reconfiguration to provide COVID-19 Relief & Response
- Childcare Expenses
- Increased cost of outreach to homeless/near homeless



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Collin County homeless housing & shelter non-profits have suffered financial hardship as a result of their provision of COVID-19 response, relief and recovery services.

Providing CARES funds will help these non-profits remain viable and ready to respond to the continued adverse impacts of COVID-19.

Notwithstanding the requested \$2 million allocation of CARES Act grants for Housing & Shelter COVID-19 Response & Recovery, we request these agencies should, at minimum, be allowed to apply for small business grants up to \$100,000.00.