



Franklin Forward Non-Profit Recovery Grant Program Guidelines

Statement of Purpose

Franklin Forward is soliciting proposals from eligible nonprofits in Franklin County that have been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 public health crisis and community response. Recommendations for funding will be made to the Franklin County Commissioners based on criteria set forth within state and federal regulations.

Background

Section 5001 of the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (March 27, 2020) establishes the Coronavirus Relief Fund. Funding can be used for expenditures that:

1. are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19);
2. were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of the date of enactment of this section for the State or government; and
3. were incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020, and ends on December 30, 2020.

Pennsylvania Act 24 of 2020 provides CARES Act funding through the Commonwealth to many counties, including Franklin County, and includes the COVID-19 County Relief Block Grant from the PA Department of Community and Economic Development. It is through this grant program that eligible nonprofits can apply for funding to Franklin Forward. \$1,760,000 to \$2,760,000 is estimated to be available for the grant program.

Program Eligibility

- Nonprofits must be incorporated as a 501 (c) 3 or 501 (c) 19.
- Applicants must currently be operating or have a clear plan to re-open once the Commonwealth permits partial or full re-opening.
- Applicants must have been operating on or prior to May 1, 2019. Eligible applicants must operate in Franklin County, Pennsylvania, must file a Pennsylvania tax return and will be required to submit their most recent 990. If the main office of an applicant is located in another county, only those costs associated with the services provided exclusively in Franklin County are eligible. Documentation will be required as part of the application process for verification purposes.

Priority Considerations

- Priority will be given to nonprofit organizations that did not receive any additional government COVID-19 response funding, for example: SBA Payroll Protection Program, other SBA Disaster/Emergency Funds.

Eligible Use of Funds

- Eligible uses for COVID-19 expenses as defined by CARES Act include, but are not limited to:
 - working capital
 - payroll
 - utilities
 - special materials and equipment to comply with state requirements.
- Eligible expenditure examples (not limited to):
 - Replenishing Food Pantries
 - Costs of increasing shelters (persons experiencing homelessness)
 - Operating Expenses (such as):
 - Rent, mortgage interest, bills, cable, internet, phone, spoilage, PPE purchases, cleaning supplies,
 - Any cost associated with preparing the agency to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus
 - Working capital for the purpose of covering the costs of re-opening operations after being fully or partially closed due to the state-mandated closure period commencing March 2020, as long as the expense was incurred due to COVID-19.
 - Any expenses (costs) incurred related to the expense of mitigating the spread of COVID-19, including but not limited to specialized equipment, barriers, PPE's, and employee training expense to ensure compliance with state and federal CDC guidelines for reopening.
 - Any Covid-19 related expenses **not already paid** for with other relief measures such as state grants or loans, US SBA Paycheck Protection Program loans, local or regional grant and/or loan programs
- Applicants will be required to self-certify adherence to the following:
 - If you use grant funds for unauthorized purposes, the PA DCED will direct you to repay those amounts. If you knowingly use the funds for unauthorized purposes, you will be subject to additional liability such as charges for fraud. If one of your shareholders, members, or partners uses grant funds for unauthorized purposes, DCED will have recourse against the shareholder, member, or partner for the unauthorized use.

Ineligible Use of Funds:

- Lost revenue due to cancelled fundraising activities due to COVID-19 are not eligible expenses.

Please note that this list of eligible and ineligible activities is not all-inclusive. The grant review team will review each application and any supporting documentation to determine eligibility.

Ineligible Nonprofits

- Nonprofits that do not have a physical location in Franklin County, Pennsylvania
- Nonprofits that are in active default (not on a payment plan) with taxes or fees owed to the federal government or Commonwealth
- Nonprofits engaged in any activity that is illegal under Federal, state, or local law
- Nonprofits that spend more than 51% of their budgeted expenses engaged in political or lobbying activities

The application can be found at www.healthyfranklincounty.org.

Questions? Contact Noel Purdy, Project Manager, Healthy Franklin County at npurdy@wellspan.org or call 717-504-0559.