



**For Immediate Release**

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## **Harlingen Establishes CDBG COVID-19 Financial Assistance Program through HUD**

**Harlingen, Texas**—The City of Harlingen announces the establishment of a second COVID-19 Financial Assistance Program to help residents who lost income due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Harlingen received a special allocation of Community Development Block Grant Cares Act funds in the amount of \$522,136 to be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) which oversees the CDBG program also requires that the money be spent on efforts that prioritize the unique needs of low- and moderate-income persons within the community.

The Harlingen City Commission unanimously approved that \$100,000 to be used to help Harlingen residents that lost their job or experienced reduced hours due to the pandemic. The program will provide up to three months of financial assistance with overdue utility, rent, or mortgage bills for the period beginning April 1, 2020.

Only one application will be accepted per household and assistance will be on a first-come-first-served basis.

To qualify, the annual household income cannot exceed current HUD income limits as stated below.

## News From The City of Harlingen

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| <b>Family Size</b> | <b>Income Limits<br/>07/01/2020</b> |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1                  | \$ 33,000                           |
| 2                  | \$ 37,700                           |
| 3                  | \$ 42,400                           |
| 4                  | \$ 47,100                           |
| 5                  | \$ 50,900                           |
| 6                  | \$ 54,650                           |
| 7                  | \$ 58,450                           |
| 8                  | \$62,200                            |

To find out what documents are required, applicants can call the Harlingen CDBG Office at (956)216-5180.

The remaining Cares Act CDBG Funds awarded to the City will be used for COVID-19 testing for the elderly, personal protection equipment for the Harlingen Housing Authority residents, and partnering with non-profit agencies to provide food to those in need.

This is the second Financial Assistance Program created by the City with Cares Act COVID Relief Funds to help residents affected by the pandemic. The first was the COVID-19 Hardship Assistance Program announced in July to help all Harlingen residents who lost their job or experienced reduced hours regardless of income.

Funds for this program are still available and applications can be submitted through Loaves and Fishes

who is administering the program for the City.

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