

Alachua County CARES Act

Proposed Changes and Future Rounds

Proposed changes to Individual Assistance:

- Increase individual assistance maximum to \$5,000 through July 31 immediately and retroactively
 - \$442,422 extra disbursement through 8/31 already disbursed
 - \$400k estimated extra disbursement in next distribution
 - Would raise current estimated individual awards in first round from \$8M to \$13M
- Exclude the \$600/week pandemic unemployment (and any future federally funded pandemic unemployment payments) from the “economic loss due to COVID-19” calculation.
 - VERY few current applicants are reporting this payment, even when they are receiving unemployment assistance
 - Those few who are reporting it are typically unable to show an economic loss and so are in effect “penalized” for being honest
 - We have no way to verify that an applicant is not receiving the additional funding, so it’s on the honor system.
- Set an appeals panel with representation from:
 - Community Support Services
 - County Management/Fiscal

Proposed Individual Assistance Round Two:

- Previous applicants:
 - Will have access to a simplified application process, with minimal documentation (ID only if they have no changes) required.
 - Set maximum assistance for each month going forward (starting with August 2020 impacts) for each household at \$1,600.
 - A living wage of \$15.19 equates to appx \$2,633 per month for a full time worker, and appx \$5,266 for a household of 4 with two working adults.
 - Assuming unemployment of \$125/week plus \$300/week pandemic benefits for unemployment equates to monthly income of \$1,842 for one, or \$3,684 for two adults on unemployment.
 - The gap between the two is \$1,582, rounded to our \$1,600 recommendation per household (assuming two adults and two dependents)
- For new applicants:
 - Similar full application required.
 - Will cover period March 1 – August 31, 2020.
 - Maximum household aid will be \$5,000 plus \$1,600 or \$6,600 (the limit for original application period through July 31 plus limit for August 2020 awards).
- Go live for all Round Two changes to be September 15th
 - IT, F&A, and CRI all believe this is the earliest date we can be confident of a stable platform and to be caught up on the R1 applications

Proposed Business Assistance Changes:

- Merge small and medium businesses and raise maximum aid through 07/31 to be \$15,000 for all.
- Similar Round Two process as individuals, but opening up October 1 to cover impacts 8/1-9/30.
 - Monthly maximum award of \$3,000 per month (so \$6,000 per business for round two).
- Consider reallocating some business allocation to the individuals or a different program (eviction avoidance as a possibility).