



*Office of the*  
**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY  
ADMINISTRATOR**

---

Jason E. Brown, County Administrator  
Michael C. Zito, Assistant County Administrator

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Members of the Board  
of County Commissioners

**FROM:** Jason E. Brown  
County Administrator

**DATE:** August 11, 2020

**SUBJECT:** CARES Act Spending Plan Revisions and Updates

---

**BACKGROUND:**

On July 14<sup>th</sup>, the Board of County Commissioners approved the initial CARES Act Spending Plan for the 25% allocation received by Indian River County. This item provides additional details regarding County staff's actions pursuant to Board direction while providing an update on recommended revisions to the initial plan.

**ANALYSIS:**

The table below details the initial spending plan for the \$6,976,333 allocation.

Type of Expense	Preliminary Funding Percentage	Preliminary Funding Amount
Municipalities	27.1%	\$1,900,000
<b>COVID-19 Response:</b>		
Constitutional Officers	12.9%	\$900,000
BCC Expenses	20.0%	\$1,400,000
Health Department	7.1%	\$500,000
Other Healthcare Providers	2.9%	\$200,000
State Agencies	1.4%	\$100,000

<b>Community Assistance:</b>		
Economic Development	7.1%	\$500,000
Community Support	21.5%	\$1,500,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$7,000,000</b>

### **Municipalities**

The Board approved an initial allocation to municipalities as detailed in the table below (approximately 27%, or \$1,900,000) based upon the formula used by the State to allocate sales tax revenues. The County has entered into grant agreements with each municipality, and approved their spending plans for CARES Act dollars. **The Town of Indian River Shores has indicated that they anticipate CARES Act expenses will not exceed \$40,000 and have executed an agreement for that amount. This leaves an additional \$117,916 available for reallocation to other areas of need. The new allocations will be detailed in the appropriate section below.**

### **Constitutional Officers**

The Board approved an initial allocation of \$900,000 (13%) to the Constitutional Officers for COVID-19 related expenses through September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020. This category does not require the execution of subrecipient agreements, as the Constitutional Officers are part of the County's financial operations. Any necessary allocations to Constitutional Officers will be made via budget amendments as necessary. **Since the initial allocation, the Sheriff and the Clerk of the Court have identified additional expenses of \$162,370. Additional expenses are anticipated after September 30<sup>th</sup> and will be addressed in the future (75%) allocation.**

### **Health Department**

**County staff has worked with the Health Department to execute a CARES Act agreement to provide \$400,000 for COVID-19 related expenses.** This is less than the initial allocation (\$500,000) as the Health Department did receive some additional funding from the State for a portion of their COVID-19 related costs, which was anticipated but not certain at the time of the July 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. This funding will be utilized for Testing, Contact Tracers, Health Educators, and Information Clerks.

### **Other Healthcare Providers**

An allocation of \$200,000 was approved for similar healthcare expenses associated with COVID-19 such as COVID-19 testing, serological testing, PPE, etc. provided by other local healthcare organizations. Cleveland Clinic was allocated \$100,000 of this funding to provide additional rapid testing for first responders and essential infrastructure workers. **Staff is recommending that the County allocate the remaining \$100,000 to Treasure Coast Community Health (TCCH) for community testing needs.**

## State Agencies

The plan includes an allocation of \$100,000 for State Agencies. Staff has coordinated with the various agencies to identify their COVID-19 related expenses that may be eligible for CARES Act dollars. The Court System primarily has identified the need for PPE supplies in their response. The Medical Examiner is requesting approximately \$5,000 to fund a temporary staff position to assist in processing paperwork associated with COVID-19 patients. Any such allocations will be accomplished via budget amendment.

## Community Assistance

The Board approved an allocation of \$2,000,000 or approximately 28.6% of the initial allocation towards programs benefiting the local community and small businesses.

## Economic Development

The Board approved an allocation of \$500,000 out of the total \$2 million from the Community Assistance Category to Economic Development. Staff proposes to allocate these funds as detailed below.

- **Small Business COVID-19 Recovery Grant** – County staff has worked with the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at IRSC to implement this program to provide one-time grants of up to \$5,000 to qualifying small businesses (no more than 25 full time equivalent positions) that serve the hospitality industry, tourism and travel. Businesses must be locally or independently owned, occupy commercial space in Indian River County, along with other minimum requirements. **One minor change is the allowance of qualified home based businesses (e.g. wedding photographer), which was not included in the initial proposal. The City of Vero Beach has also allocated \$120,000 to this same program to supplement the County allocation. The City of Sebastian has implemented a separate small business assistance program. We have excluded businesses that have received a grant from an Indian River County municipality. Sebastian has also limited their program to disallow for any “double dipping”, and we are sharing approved applicants on a periodic basis to prevent a business from receiving both grants.**
- **COVID-19 Workforce Development Program** – Funding was initially provided to Career Source Research Coast for an On the Job Training Program, Layoff Aversion/Rapid Response Program, and Layoff Aversion/Incumbent Worker Training Program in the total amount of \$250,000. **Due to challenges implementing this program, County staff is coordinating with other partner agencies to assist small businesses and workers through a similar program. Once details are worked out, this will be submitted to the Board for approval at a future meeting.**

## Community Support

The Board has approved an allocation of \$1.5 million for general community support to help residents negatively impacted economically by COVID-19. Staff has worked with the various agencies to implement the proposed programs as detailed below:

- **United Way (UWIRC) Funding Allocation** - \$975,000 total to be utilized primarily for programs detailed below. **Due to restrictions regarding United Way’s use of other contribution funds, they are unable to provide these services on a reimbursement basis. Staff has agreed to provide an initial allocation of 25% that would be supported by documented costs prior to release of additional funds.** Please see a copy of the revised agreement attached.
  - Expenses to provide mental health service support for residents impacted by COVID-19, particularly telemedicine, cost of mental health visits, cost of behavioral health prescriptions, etc.
  - Support for broadband and other technology needs to assist with distance learning and teleworking particularly in rural areas (e.g. Fellsmere) for families and nonprofits.
  - Other programs as detailed in the Schedule A (attached) to this item including; rental and mortgage assistance, special supports for children and veterans, childcare scholarships for those returning to work.
- **Food Support** – Allocation of \$400,000 to the Treasure Coast Food Bank to serve as the coordinating agency for food support to residents impacted by COVID-19. The County has executed an agreement with the Treasure Coast Food Bank to provide this support.
- **Senior Resource Association (SRA)** – Allocation of \$125,000 to provide support for food delivery service to residents, including senior citizens and other vulnerable populations through existing programs such as meals on wheels and the grocery shopping assistance program implemented for COVID-19. The County has executed an agreement with SRA to provide these services.
- **PPE and Supply Distribution** – County staff has been working to provide COVID-19 supplies for local businesses and County residents through our nonprofit partners. An allocation of \$75,000 has been made to provide supplies such as; cloth and surgical masks, hand sanitizer, gloves, signage and cleaning supplies throughout the County. Staff plans to begin distribution at various sites during the week of August 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Summary**

The adjustments as detailed above are shown in the revised spending plan below. It is important to note that there may be a need to make future adjustments as well. Any such changes will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners at a future meeting.

<b>Type of Expense</b>	<b>Preliminary Funding Amount</b>	<b>Revised Funding Amount</b>	<b>Change</b>
Municipalities	\$1,917,912	\$1,799,996	(\$117,916)
<b>COVID-19 Response:</b>			
Constitutional Officers	\$900,000	\$1,000,000	\$100,000
BCC Expenses	\$1,400,000	\$1,401,337	\$1,337
Health Department	\$500,000	\$400,000	(\$100,000)
Other Healthcare Providers	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$0

State Agencies	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0
<b>Community Assistance:</b>			
Economic Development	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$0
Community Support	\$1,500,000	\$1,575,000	\$75,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,017,912</b>	<b>\$6,976,333</b>	<b>(\$41,579)</b>

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the Board of County Commissioners approve the revisions to the CARES Act Allocations as discussed in this item and as specifically detailed below:

- Approve the revised spending plan shown in the table above.
- Ratify the agreement (attached) with the United Way of Indian River County.
- Approve the allocation of \$100,000 to TCCH and authorize the Chair to execute a sub-recipient agreement.
- Approve the PPE and Supply Distribution along with the allocation of \$75,000 for the purchase of supplies.