

Summary of the Second Amendment to the PY19 Annual Action Plan

Lake County was awarded additional entitlement funds to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act which was signed in to law March 27, 2020. Lake County will be receiving \$1,709,120 in additional Community Development Block Grant funding (CDBG) and \$777,472 in additional Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) grant funding from the first allotment. HUD is providing unprecedented flexibility with broad eligibility and waivers of regulatory requirements.

The proposed funding recommendations were designed to act quickly to support high-capacity, vetted programs to scale up rapidly to meet the immediacy of the crisis. United Way of Lake County’s 211 information and referral call service saw a 92% increase in call volume in the month of March, driven by an increase in coronavirus calls. The top five needs identified in coronavirus calls were: rental assistance, food pantries, electric service payment assistance, homeless shelters and gas service payment assistance. With this need and one-time funding, federal funding is best invested with organizations that have the capacity to scale up and the capacity to navigate Federal compliance requirements.

The follow funding recommendations align with community need and support vetted community partner organizations.

Funded Programs	ESG	CDBG	Funding Purpose
PADS Lake County	\$250,000		Emergency Shelter
A Safe Place	\$100,000		Emergency Shelter
Catholic Charities	\$349,725		Rapid Rehousing (medium term rental assistance and services)
Northern Illinois Food Bank		\$200,000	Food support to local pantries
Catholic Charities		\$250,000	Rent and utility assistance
Community Action Partnership		\$200,000	Rent and utility assistance
Community Partners for Affordable Housing		\$250,000	Rent and utility assistance
Prairie State Legal Services		\$100,000	Housing legal services
North Shore Legal Aid Clinic		\$50,000	Housing legal services
211		\$100,000	Information and Referral
Black Chamber of Commerce		\$100,000	Loans to small businesses
Lake County	\$77,747	\$341,824	Administration
Total	\$777,472	\$1,591,824	

Funding contracts will be issued as soon as HUD approves the amended AAP. Contracts will include provisions to repurposed funding if spending is not occurring in a timely manner. Staff anticipates that there will be an opportunity to adjust funding levels as additional CDBG funding becomes available.