NEBRASKA COVID-19 FUNDING MATRIX
OVERVIEW:

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Nebraska Children and Families Foundation and AVA Insights worked with Bring Up Nebraska partners and communities covering 81 counties in Nebraska to develop “community playbooks” to quickly identify gaps in services, develop plans, coordinate, and respond to the emergent needs of youth and families across the state. Summaries of the playbooks findings on issues like housing food security, connectivity, and mental health can be found on the Bring Up Nebraska website under “tools and resources”: http://www.bringupnebraska.org/tools-resources. While the philanthropic and the private sector has partnered with public agencies and local collaboratives to find solutions to specific COVID-19 needs from the playbooks, communities have requested a way to track which federal funding is coming into Nebraska and for what purposes dollars are being allocated. Local communities want to see the big picture to fit the puzzle pieces together to meet local needs.

The Matrix, while continually updated, is organized into categories for navigation based on needs. It is designed as a tool to be able to maximize collective impact in COVID-19 response at the local level. For example, if a community collaborative has local government officials, public health, economic development, local school districts, and community response housing support at the table, they can use this tool to identify local touch points of contact for funding streams to those entities. They can ask questions like “What is our community receiving in local government aid?” “What needs does our local Community Action Agency plan to serve with their CSBG award?” “Is our local school district planning to purchase devices for connectivity?” A local community can take the needs identified in their community playbook and match them directly with potential funding sources in the matrix and work collectively to maximize their response for children and families. This can help reduce duplication in addressing needs and identify gaps. The matrix can also be used as a conversation starter to find out what private resources are being sought or have been secured.

Before diving into the Matrix, it is helpful to understand the distinction between Coronavirus Relief Fund dollars ($1.25 billion) and supplemental federal appropriations that go directly to state agencies (ex. Family Violence Prevention or K-12 Education Stabilization Funds).

Coronavirus Relief Fund:

As part of the CARES Act, every state received at least $1.25 billion from the Coronavirus Relief Fund split between state government and local governments. In Nebraska, Douglas County is the only local entity that qualified to receive CRF dollars through direct allocation ($166 million) because the population meets the 500,000 person threshold. The state will receive $1.08 million directly or 86% of the total CRF dollars coming to Nebraska. The guidance for the available uses of CRF is published by the U.S. Treasury. This matrix includes decisions Governor Ricketts has announced for dedicating State Coronavirus Relief Fund dollars as of July 8, 2020. The Governor’s decisions to date do not account for the entirety of the state CRF. Nebraskans could see changes and additions to the uses of the CRF as the state continues to respond to the pandemic into the future.

While the Governor has announced decisions for the State CRF and Douglas County has announced decisions for its portion of CRF, many of the funding decisions for supplemental appropriations were already baked into existing programs. This is why it is important for local communities to communicate to see the collective picture of funding support to serve children and families. To support that effort, this Matrix includes information about where there is an application process for things like Family Violence Prevention ($282,646) or the Child Care and Development Block Grant ($20,077,074) and who might be eligible to apply. Funding for housing needs have different deadlines for expenditure, different restrictions, and an array of agencies involved in allocating funds. If a community or nonprofit is serving housing needs, you may want to start with the housing section of the Matrix and then navigate to the Community CARES program under the State CRF section.

The Nebraska Legislature is schedule to resume session July 20, 2020 after a recess called by the Speaker due to public health concerns. The Nebraska COVID-19 Funding Matrix is a continuously evolving document as more information is provided by state agencies and more decisions are made by policymakers and the Governor to help Nebraska whether the impacts of the pandemic.
OVERVIEW:

This matrix was created as a resource for Nebraska based community collaboratives and nonprofit organizations.
**Education Funds:**

- **Total:** $208,212,293

**Governor’s Emergency Education Relief Fund**
- $16,357,285
- 7.86% of Relief Funds

**K–12 Education Funds**
- $65,085,085
- 31.26% of Relief Funds

**Higher Education Funds (Minorities & Historically Black)**
- $1,447,140
- 0.70% of Relief Funds

**Higher Education Funds (Unmet Needs)**
- $1,166,444
- 0.56% of Relief Funds

**Child Nutrition**
- $56,933,600
- 27.34% of Relief Funds

**Higher Education Funds**
- $67,222,766
- 32.29% of Relief Funds
The Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) conducted a prioritization survey of stakeholders across Nebraska, and the following priorities were identified:

• Enhance technology infrastructure (e.g., broadband, devices, platforms, data privacy, etc.) for students and families.
• Build supports for planning for possible interruptions upon returning to school and student and staff reentry.
• Ensure student nutritional needs are met.
• Provide professional learning to support an inclusive remote learning environment and engagement, along with best practices for different student groups.
• Create or expand mental, behavioral, and social emotional supports (e.g., telehealth). In addition, the Nebraska governor has determined the following for use of GEER funds:
• Address the digital divide and related issues to support remote learning for students in K-12 schools.
• Focus on providing equitable access to technology for all students and improving parity in access to all schools.
• Hardware purchases for use of school students and improving access to reliable, high-speed internet for students.
• Reserve some funds to provide flexibility to address additional COVID-19 issues.

The NDE and Office of the Governor are committed to coordinating and aligning these priority efforts to ensure an effective and efficient approach in providing technology supports for all Nebraska students and schools. The NDE’s creation of a "Hierarchy of Digital Learning Needs" serves as an organization model for planning and determining resources at the state level. The areas of focus include:

• The next important statewide projects phase includes collecting specific status and technology-based needs of public and nonpublic schools. This will be accomplished through an online submission of a "Digital Learning Profile and Plan." All public and nonpublic schools that desire to be considered for GEER and ESSER funds, resources, and supports addressing digital inequities and gaps highlighted by COVID-19 should promptly complete the Digital Learning Profile and Plan at http://www.launchne.com by July 6, 2020.
• As a reminder, public and nonpublic schools interested in participating in the statewide pricing for a Learning Management System should view and complete the information available at: https://www.launchne.com/wpcontent/uploads/2020/06/Why-a-Learning-Management-System.pdf. The deadline for submission for a fall implementation of the Canvas LMS is June 19, 2020.
**Education Relief Funds**

**Child Nutrition Funds:**
- **Total:** $56,933,600
  - 27.34%
- **Federal Administrator:** ED
- **State Agency Contact:** --

**Governor’s Emergency Education Relief:**
- **Total:** $16,357,258
  - 7.86%
- **Federal Administrator:** ED
- **State Agency Contact:** --

**$16,357,258 - Education Stabilization Funds (GEER):**
- Address the digital divide and related issues to support remote learning for students in K-12 schools.
- Focus on providing equitable access to technology for all students and improving parity in access to all schools.
- Hardware purchases for use of school students and improving access to reliable, high-speed internet for students.
- Reserve some funds to provide flexibility to address additional COVID-19 issues.
Higher Education: (Minorities & Historically Black)

Federal Administrator: ED
State Agency Contact: HHS, Peggy Trouba

$1,447,140 - Higher Education for Minorities & Historically Black

0.70%

Higher Education: (Unmet Needs)

Federal Administrator: ED
State Agency Contact: HHS, Peggy Trouba

$1,166,444 - Higher Education & Unmet Needs

0.56%
Food Funds USDA:

- TEFAP Administration: $1,184,420
- TEFAP Food Program: $2,815,130
- Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children: $2,251,215

Total: $6,250,765
Is this for individuals to apply or for community agencies?
- Funding goes to state WIC agencies for services to individuals

Has the funding been distributed?
- No, is distributed through the federal WIC funding formula as are annual appropriated funds

What can the funding be used for?
- Ongoing WIC services
- No guarantee NE WIC will receive this amount of funding through the funding formula process

When does it need to be spent by?
- The FFY in which it is provided

Federal Administrator: USDA
State Agency Contact: HHS, Peggy Trouba

Is this for individuals to apply or for community agencies?
- Food Bank for the Heartland and Food Bank of Lincoln operate TEFAP

Has the funding been distributed?
- Yes, to the food banks

What can the funding be used for?
- Used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus

When does it have to be spent by?
- September 30, 2020

Federal Administrator: USDA
State Agency Contact: HHS

Is this for individuals to apply or for community agencies?
- Food Bank for the Heartland and Food Bank of Lincoln operate TEFAP

Has the funding been distributed?
- Yes, to the food banks

What can the funding be used for?
- Used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus

When does it need to be spent by?
- September 30, 2020

Federal Administrator: USDA
State Agency Contact: DHHS, Melissa Weyer/Chad Mohr

Food Relief Funds
total: $6,250,765

Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children
total: $2,251,215

TEFAP Administration
total: $1,184,420

TEFAP Food Program
total: $2,815,130
Approximately 156,257 Nebraska children can benefit from a new program, Pandemic EBT, authorized by the Families First Coronavirus Response Act. The USDA has announced that Nebraska has been approved to operate P-EBT. In cross-agency collaboration, the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services in partnership with the Nebraska Department of Education will operate a P-EBT.

P-EBT provides assistance to families of children who are eligible for free or reduced-priced meals and impacted by school closures. This means 156,257 children in Nebraska that were determined eligible for free and reduced-priced lunches during the 2019-2020 school year are eligible to receive a supplemental benefit. P-EBT can be used to buy good at grocery stores and farmer's markets that accept SNAP EBT and to purchase groceries online at Amazon and Walmart. It is intended to offset the loss of meals that would have been consumed in school this spring.

Families who are already participating in SNAP do not need to apply and will have their benefits automatically placed on their EBT card.

Families who are NOT currently participating in SNAP but have been determined eligible by their schools to receive free or reduced-priced lunches will need to apply for P-EBT through the P-EBT online application (beginning June 22 and running through July 19). They will receive a specific “P-EBT” card.

Receiving P-EBT benefits will not affect a family’s ability to receive other benefits and benefits will be good for one year after receiving them.

To learn about what information is needed, alternative methods to apply, and more details, please see the press release from DHHS, this FAQ and this P-EBT Quick Reference Guide.
Housing Funds:

- Community Development Block Grant - First Round
  - $11,269,634
- Public Housing Operating
  - $2,513,297
- Tenant-Based Rental Assistance
  - $1,522,994
- Tenant-Based Rental Assistance
- Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities
  - $192,147
- Homeless Assistance: ESG - First Round
  - $8,508,363
- Homeless Assistance: ESG - Second Round
  - $8,484,742
- Cross-Cutting Funds for more information on allocation of Housing

Total: $36,964,547
Community Development Block Grant – CV Funds are distributed by formula.

- $1,500,000 of Omaha’s funds ($2,784,717) have been awarded for short-term rent mortgage, and case management assistance for households who have been impacted by recession caused by COVID-19.
- The allocation for the City of Lincoln is $1,1415,912.
- The allocation for the City of Bellevue is $212,000.
- The allocation for the City of Grand Island is $250,000.
- Balance of State allocation is $6,486,296.

Has the funding been distributed?
- The funding has not been distributed. It will be a competitive application process. The distribution process and application will be publicly posted at: http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Nebraska-Homeless-Assistance-Program-Providers.aspx

What can the funding be used for?
- Homeless Prevention, Rapid Rehousing, Emergency Shelter, Street Outreach, HMIS, etc. to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19.

When does it need to be spent by?
- ESG funding must be spent 2 years from when the State signs the grant agreement with HUD.
Housing Funds
total: $36,964,547

Community Development Block Grant: SECOND ROUND
total: $4,782,338
Federal Administrator: HUD
State Contact: LOC, Bradd Schmeichel BSchmeichel@lincoln.ne.gov; Omaha: nicole.engels@cityofomaha.org

Homeless Assistance–ESG: SECOND ROUND
total: $8,484,742
Federal Administrator: HUD
State Contact: LOC, Bradd Schmeichel BSchmeichel@lincoln.ne.gov; Omaha: nicole.engels@cityofomaha.org

- ESG funding must be spent 2 years from when the State signs the grant agreement with HUD.
Public Housing Operating:
Federal Administrator: HUD
Contacts: LOC

total: $2,513,297

Tenant-Based Rental Assistance:
Federal Administrator: HUD
Contacts: LOC, Omaha: nicole.engels@cityofomaha.org

total: $1,522,994

Housing Funds
total: $36,964,547

Total Public Housing Operating: $2,513,297
Total Tenant-Based Rental Assistance: $1,522,994
Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities

Federal Administrator: HUD
State Agency Contact: HHS

total: $192,147

Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS

Federal Administrator: HUD
State Agency Contact: HHS

total: $ 88,540

Housing Funds

total: $36,964,547

Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS

Federal Administrator: HUD
State Agency Contact: HHS

total: $ 88,540
Coronavirus Relief Funds

Coronavirus Relief Fund – Douglas County – Housing:
As of 6/28/2020, $10,000,000 is allocated for rent assistance, which will be administered by a local, qualified organization that will ensure the renter assistance meets CARES Act guidelines.

Coronavirus Relief Fund – State – Housing:
Homelessness prevention assistance is listed as a funding allowance for applications for the Response and Recover Grant under the Community CARES Program administered by DHHS.
Health (CDC & Public Health) Funds:

- **First Provider Relief Funds**: $225,027,012 (35.80% of Health Funds)
- **Second Provider Relief Funds**: $272,150,859 (43.29% of Health Funds)
- **Third Provider Relief Funds**: $41,600,000
- **Minimum CDC Grant**: $5,329,627 (0.85% of Health Funds)
- **CDC Grant**: $6,546,664 (1.04% of Health Funds)
- **CDC Testing Funding**: $71,519,807 (11.38% of Health Funds)
- **SAMISHA Funds**: $2,000,000 (0.32% of Health Funds)

Total: $628,621,875
Public Health Funds
total: $628,621,875

CDC Grant:
total: $6,546,664
1.04%
Federal Administrator: CDC
State Agency Contact: HHS

Minimum CDC Grant:
total: $5,329,627
0.85%
Federal Administrator: CDC
State Agency Contact: HHS
**Public Health Funds**

- **CDC Testing Funding**
  - total: $71,519,807
  - 11.38%
  - Federal Administrator: CDC
  - State Agency Contact: HHS

- **Hospital Preparedness**
  - total: $4,447,906
  - 0.71%
  - Federal Administrator: CDC
  - LOC contact: Eric Seargent
Public Health Funds
total: $628,621,875

Provider Relief Funds
35.80% Federal Administrator:
total: $225,027,012

Provider Relief Funds
43.29% Federal Administrator:
total: $272,150,859

Provider Relief Funds
6.62% Federal Administrator:
total: $41,600,000
On April 1, 2020, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration released a funding opportunity for Emergency Grants to Address Mental and Substance Use Disorders During COVID-19 with an application due date of April 10, 2020. In response, the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Behavioral Health (DBH) responded to the one-time-only funding announcement with an application for $2 million in COVID-19 related aid. Funds are restricted to direct treatment and recovery activities to Nebraskans impacted by COVID 19 and served after the date of award. The DBH proposed to take two approaches to expand capacity to behavioral health services and treatment. The larger effort will be to expand capacity across Nebraska's public behavioral health system to increase access to medication management (including medication assisted treatment for substance abuse disorder), outpatient assessment and psychotherapy and peer support for individuals who experience serious mental illness (SMI), individuals with substance use disorders (SUD), and/or individuals with co-occurring SMI and SUD. The additional expanded capacity will also be available to serve individuals with mental disorders that are less severe than SMI, including those in the healthcare professions. Additionally, reaching individuals in the healthcare professions will require a different approach than has typically been employed by DBH. DBH is proposing to build on the existing communication channels utilized by various medical associations to communicate the availability of the behavioral health services vouchers to their members. Service funds are proposed to be incorporated into contracts and subawards with Regional Behavioral Health Authorities, tribal authorities, peer-run organizations and medical and social service trade associations for healthcare providers, first responders and other essential personnel to provide access to services and supports that cannot be met with other resources such as private insurance, employee assistance programs or Medicaid. The DBH is also proposing to expand the contracts for capacity with the four family-led organizations in the state to increase access to family navigator and peer support services to provide recovery support services, individual support services and resource assistance for childcare, vocational, educational, linkages to housing services, and transportation services; services which will improve access to, and retention in services. Per the grant requirements, 70 percent of direct service funding from this grant has been identified to provide services to individuals with serious mental illness; those with SUDs, or those with co-occurring SMI and SUDs. Ten percent of direct service funding is allocated to healthcare practitioners with mental disorders (less severe than SMI) requiring mental health care as a result of COVID-19 and twenty percent of direct service funding has been allocated for all other individuals with mental disorders less severe than SMI. The DBH is well positioned to manage the distribution of Emergency COVID-19 Response funds as well as ensure appropriate and effective use of those funds. The DBH is the chief behavioral health authority for the State [§71-806 (1)]. The DBH is both the State Mental Health Authority (SMHA) and the Single State Substance Abuse Authority (SSA). The DBH administers, oversees, and coordinates the state's public behavioral health system to address the prevention and treatment of mental health and substance use disorders. The DBH is responsible for managing both the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant (CMHSBG) and the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (SAPTBG). DBH funds priority treatment and support services for individuals without Medicaid and individuals without insurance or who are underinsured, according to financial eligibility based on a sliding scale on income and family size.

For more information regarding the Emergency Grants to Address Mental and Substance Use Disorders During COVID-19 go to https://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/fg-20-006
Human Services (ACF & ACL) Funds:

- **Child Care & Development Block Grant**: $20,077,074, 44.56% of HS Funds
- **Congregate and Home-Delivered Meals**: $3,996,332, 8.87% of HS Funds
- **Runway Homeless Youth: Education and Prevention Living**: $15,000, 0.03% of HS Funds
- **Family Violence Protection**: $202,646, 0.45% of HS Funds
- **Low Income Energy Assistance**: $7,852,336, 17.43% of HS Funds
- **Runway Homeless Youth: Basic Center**: $80,000, 0.18% of HS Funds
- **Community Services Block Grant Assistance**: $6,953,746, 15.43% of HS Funds
- **Supportive Services**: $1,110,092, 2.46% of HS Funds
- **Head Start**: $4,140,199, 9.19% of HS Funds
- **Runaway Homeless Youth: Transitional Living**: $266,358, 0.59% of HS Funds
- **Child Care & Development Block Grant**: total: $45,051,884
Is this for individuals to apply or for community agencies?
• This is for Community Action Agencies and/or Community Action of Nebraska

Has the funding been distributed?
• Yes, the funding has been distributed to the Community Action Agencies. This was not a competitive grant process.

What can the funding be used for?
• The funding can be utilized as per the CSBG Act and CARES Act for anti-poverty type programs/services to prevent, prepare for, or respond to COVID-19. The Community Action Agencies conduct needs assessments to determine how to best utilize the funds to serve those in their community. Funds can be utilized to serve individuals up to 200% of the federal poverty level.
Human Services Funds
total: $45,051,884

Child Care and Development Block Grant:
Federal Administrator: ACF
State Agency Contact: Nicole Vint

44.56%
total: $20,077,074

Nebraska DHHS has released approximate allocations of CCDF Funds:

- **Child Care Relief Fund Grants** | $267,000: Offer relief funds to child care providers who have already applied for the grant program administered by Nebraska Children and Families Foundation and the Nebraska Early Childhood Collaborative. The infusion of CARES Act dollars will fund eligible applicants still on the waitlist for relief grants.

- **Child Care Provider Stabilization Grants** | $8,705,000: Offer one-time grant awards to family child care homes ($3,500) and center-based programs ($5,500) to cover operational costs, rent and mortgage, staff salaries, cleaning and personal protective supplies and related needs.

- **Incentive Grants for Reopening Child Care Programs** | $1,000,000: Facilitate reopening of child care programs that have temporarily suspended operations during the public health emergency. Providers must commit to reopening within 30 days, participate in quality improvement initiatives and deliver care to children of low-income families or parents working in essential occupations.

- **Nebraska Child Care Referral Network** | $500,000: Supports continued development of a newly launched online platform to connect working parents with child care providers based on program type, children's ages, location, participation in Step Up to Quality and Child Care Subsidy and other criteria.

- **Afterschool and Summer Learning for School Age Children** | $4,000,000: Supports future collaboration between DHHS and Beyond School Bells, Nebraska's After School Network with the Nebraska Children and Families Foundation.
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<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>ACF</td>
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<td>0.45%</td>
<td>ACF</td>
<td>Angie</td>
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**Is this for individuals to apply or for community agencies?**
- This funding will be administered from the state level to eligible individuals.

**Has the funding been distributed?**
- DHHS is developing a plan for expending these funds.

**What can the funding be used for?**
- The funding can be utilized as per federal and state LIHEAP regulations to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19.

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**Has the funding been distributed?**
- DHHS is required to distribute the money within 60 days of receiving the award. Currently, the subawards are out for signature.

**What can the funding be used for?**
- Funding may support a wide range of in-scope activities including counseling, mobile advocacy, telehealth, peer support, shelter and temporary housing, rental assistance and nominal relocation expenses, supplies, and equipment and software to assist in carrying out remote services.

**When does it need to be spent by?**
- 9/30/2021
Not available for competitive application. Dollars will cover child welfare COVID related expenditures.

The CARES Act funding that was appropriated for the RHY program was awarded to existing grantees as supplements to their discretionary grant awards. RHY grantees are largely non-profit organizations rather than state agencies.

You can find a list of Nebraska RHY grantees at the following web address: https://www.acf.hhs.gov/fysb/grants/nebraska-rhy.
Runaway Homeless Youth: Transitional Living

0.59%
Federal Administrator: ACF
total: $266,358

The CARES Act funding that was appropriated for the RHY program was awarded to existing grantees as supplements to their discretionary grant awards. RHY grantees are largely non-profit organizations rather than state agencies.

You can find a list of Nebraska RHY grantees at the following web address: https://www.acf.hhs.gov/fysb/grants/nebraska-rhy.

Runaway Homeless Youth: Education & Prevention

0.03%
Federal Administrator: ACF
total: $15,000

The CARES Act funding that was appropriated for the RHY program was awarded to existing grantees as supplements to their discretionary grant awards. Our RHY grantees are largely non-profit organizations rather than state agencies.

You can find a list of Nebraska RHY grantees at the following web address: https://www.acf.hhs.gov/fysb/grants/nebraska-rhy.
Supportive Services

- Total: $1,110,092
- 2.46%

Federal Administrator: ACL
State Agency Contact: Cynthia Brammeier

Is this for individuals to apply or for community agencies?
- Area Agencies on Aging only

Has the funding been distributed?
- Subawards based on Intrastate Funding Formula

What can the funding be used for?
- Older Americans Act access & in-home services

When does it need to be spent by?
- 9/30/2021

Congregate and Home-Delivered Meals

- Total: $3,996,332
- 8.87%

Federal Administrator: ACL
State Agency Contact: Cynthia Brammeier

Is this for individuals to apply or for community agencies?
- Area Agencies on Aging only

Has the funding been distributed?
- Subawards based on Intrastate Funding Formula

What can the funding be used for?
- Older Americans Act nutrition programs

When does it need to be spent by?
- 9/30/2020
CARES Act funds are now distributed by a formula based on each grantee’s funded enrollment.

Office of Head Start Funding for Head Start Summer Programs and Response to COVID-19:

Initial Funds for Head Start Grantees:

https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/policy/pi/acf-pi-hs-20-03

- $500 million is available for programs to operate supplemental summer programs for Head Start children ages 3-5 with the priority for those transitioning to Kindergarten and also for children being served with an Individual Education Plan (IEP)
- $250 million is available for one-time activities in response to COVID-19.
- Notice on how much a grantee would need for summer programs was required immediately to estimate costs.
- Applications were due May 15, 202

In the meantime due to fluidity of evolving circumstances during COVID-19 pandemic with states passing shelter-in-place mandates and cases rising OHS updates the funding guidance for the CARES Act and sends out an amended P.L. 116-136 as follows:

https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/policy/pi/acf-pi-hs-20-04

The CARES Act funds will now be distributed by a formula based on each grantee’s funded enrollment rather than in two separate awards. Funds are still targeted for summer programs, if possible, and activities in response to COVID-19 but grantees will maintain the flexibility to repurpose those funds for other one-time activities related to COVID-19, if needed. A new application is required due June 15, 2020.

June 10, 2020
Head Start COVID-19 CARES Act Funds
Input from Head Start Directors on Indent Use of the One-time Funds
Summer Programs: Decisions are based on surveying families willingness to allow children to return, staffing availability (many are off in the summer and have their own children; they can offer higher salaries for summer) local Health Department guidance, discussion with their Policy Councils, and the activity rate of the coronavirus in their regions.

CHALLENGES to Summer Programs:

1. Majority 65%-75% (Anecdotal information varies by region) of families say they will send their child to a summer program and a smaller percentage are not ready to have their child in group setting. Some areas with meatpacking companies are not opening for summer due to high health risks.

2. A grantee with several public school partnerships using their classrooms is waiting for school to decide if they will open for the summer programs.

3. It varies but about 75% (anecdotal) said they have difficulty getting local Health Dept. guidance for reopening in writing which they need for Head Start required documentation on decisions to reopen. They say local health departments overwhelmed and if you can reach them they refer you to CDC for guidance. Many will not put anything in writing even in an email. Some HS programs work with more than one health department.

Months for summer programs: July only and it was chosen again for reasons with safety, getting staff, parents not ready to return in June, getting a space for some, etc.

Weeks Open: Two (most) to four weeks. A couple grantees with year round Early Head Start programs.

Time/Days: All are half day (3.5-4 hrs.) and vary from two – four (most) days Mon.-Thurs weekly

Classroom Size: Usually will be Head Start 7-9 children. Mainly 5 year olds transitioning to school but may be 3 and 4 as well. Want ratio to be higher so teacher and para if possible.

Parental Options: Virtual class with fewer days and time per week.

One program: along with a few summer classes in July will Providing EHS and HS (year round classrooms) essential work-ers only at this time.

Home Visits: Not occurring in person in the home yet. Following local health dept. guidance.

- Contacting families weekly by zoom/call on phone if possible or phone many times outside of home,
- Leaving learning materials or books at home for them to keep.

Policy and Procedures for Summer Programs and Home Visitation:

Guidance for drive through drop off and pick up and reopening adhering to local health dept., Head Start COVID-19 Safety, and CDC guidance. HS will be doing daily health care checks. Using phone survey to do conduct simple health care check before arrival to save time at drop off and so child does not arrive and have to return.

IT Equipment Purchased:

- Several programs Ready Rosie to all our families this upcoming year.
- More technology has been purchased for remote learning, Home Visits, and professional development such as IPad, Chrome books, and Hotspots.
- Investigating different apps to use for prior entrance into our building.
- Updating IT systems (both software and hardware).

Health and Safety Materials Purchased:

- Having professional cleaning, disinfecting, and sanitizing services completed on facilities prior to any staff or children re-entering the buildings.
- Purchasing masks & gloves for all staff and children if parents allow them to be used
- No touch thermometers, some face shields
- Additional cots and trays
- Many got smocks for staff which will remain at center and be washed daily
- Some bought additional washer and dryryer for center
- Sanitation dispensers, hand wash containers, bleach and such
- Some put in automatic soap dispensers for staff and children•Some changed to automatic sinks for staff and children
- Barrier supplies, purchasing additional devices for loan to parents, purchasing supplies and materials to allow us to make minor modifications to classrooms to allow for social distancing

Head Start: total: $4,140,199

Federal Administrator: ACF
State Agency Contact: --

Home Visits: Not occurring in person in the home yet. Following local health dept. guidance.

- Contacting families weekly by zoom/call on phone if possible or phone many times outside of home,
- Leaving learning materials or books at home for them to keep.

Policy and Procedures for Summer Programs and Home Visitation:

Guidance for drive through drop off and pick up and reopening adhering to local health dept., Head Start COVID-19 Safety, and CDC guidance. HS will be doing daily health care checks. Using phone survey to do conduct simple health care check before arrival to save time at drop off and so child does not arrive and have to return.

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$00.00
Coronavirus Relief Funds:

- Douglas County COVID-19 Relief Funds: $166,134,258 (14.00% of Total Relief Funds)
- Community CARES: $85,000,000 (7.84% of State Relief Funds)
- Nebraska Broadland Grant: $40,000,000 (3.96% of State Relief Funds)
- Nebraska Workforce Training: $16,000,000 (1.48% of State Relief Funds)
- Administrative Support to Business Programs: $5,000,000 (0.46% of State Relief Funds)
- Nebraska Small Business Live-Stock Producer Stabilization Grants: $330,000,000 (30.44% of State Relief Funds)
- Unemployment Trust Fund & General Fund Budget Flexibility: $427,000,000 (39.39% of State Relief Funds)
- Local Government: $100,000,000 (9.23% of State Relief Funds)
- Gallup Back to Business: $1,000,000 (0.09% of State Relief Funds)
- Nebraska Small Business: $80,000,000 (7.38% of State Relief Funds)

Total: $1,250,000,000
In May of 2020, Governor Ricketts announced the State’s initial plans for use of the Coronavirus Relief Funds authorized by the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

- Unemployment Trust Fund and General Fund Budget Flexibility
- Nebraska Small Business Livestock Producer Stabilization Grants
- State Government
- Local Government
- Community CARES
- Nebraska Broadband Grant (Remote Access Grant Program)
- Nebraska Workforce Training Initiative
- Administrative Support to all Business Programs
- Gallup Back to Business

June 17, 2020: The Douglas County Board authorizes a contract with Deloitte for consulting and accounting services regarding the utilization of CARES Act funds. The State of Nebraska also retained Deloitte, which will allow the State of Nebraska and Douglas County to have a coordinated effort to consistently apply the U.S. Treasury Department’s guidance in the disbursement of CARES Act funds.

June 23, 2020: The Douglas County Board approves the following allocations of CARES Act funding:

- $10 million for rent assistance, which will be administered by a local, qualified organization that will ensure the renter assistance meets CARES Act guidelines
- $13,451,308 to the Douglas County Health Department for six projects to combat the COVID-19 pandemic
- $237,496 to the Douglas County Treasurer’s Office for expenses incurred due to COVID-19, including an updated phone system, personal protective equipment (PPE) and office supplies
- $12,578,249 for capital projects at the Douglas County Health Center, primarily for upgrades to the air handling system to improve air flow and germ elimination
- $5,388,435 to Public Properties for capital projects at Douglas County Department of Corrections to improve the air handling system to help prevent future spread of the virus
State Coronavirus Relief Funds:

Unemployment Trust Fund and General Fund Budget Flexibility:

- Federal Administrator: --
- State Agency Contact: --
- 39.39%

- total: $427,000,000

Pending continued review of UI Trust Fund claims and potential future Federal COVID-19 legislation.

Nebraska Small Business Livestock Producer Stabilization Grants:

- Federal Administrator: --
- State Agency Contact: --
- 30.44%

- total: $330,000,000

Small Business Eligibility: Nebraska-owned for-profit businesses, with 5 to 49 employees, that have suffered a negative economic impact.

Livestock Producer Eligibility:

- Derive at least 2/3 of their gross income from farming or ranching,
- Have 1-10 employees (including business owner and counting part-time workers)
- Have at least 20 animal units
- Have suffered a business loss or ceased operations due to the coronavirus pandemic

Applications open on June 15th, and the deadline to complete them is June 26th. Grant recipients are anticipated to receive $12,000. Funds will be disbursed to grant recipients, via direct deposit, by August 1, 2020.
State Coronavirus Relief Funds: total: $1,083,865,742

Federal Administrator: --
State Agency Contact: --

Local Government Funds: total: $100,000,000

Federal Administrator: --
State Agency Contact: --

State Government Funds: total: $80,000,000

Federal Administrator: --
State Agency Contact: --

7.38%
9.23%

Providing reimbursement for necessary COVID-19 related expenditures incurred by State Agencies:

- Necessary Expenditures:
  - Acquisition of: Personal Protective Equipment, Sanitizing Products, and other necessary COVID-19 medical supplies and equipment.
  - COVID-19 Medical Leave
  - Tele-work Capabilities
  - Expenses for Sanitizing Public Areas
  - Temporary Emergency Staffing and over-time costs for staff that is substantially dedicated to the mitigation or response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency
  - Payroll costs for public health and public safety employees for services dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency. No presumption permitted.

Any funds provided pursuant to this program cannot be used as a revenue replacement for lower than expected tax or other revenue collections.

7.38%
9.23%
State Coronavirus Relief Funds:  
**total:** $1,083,865,742

### Community CARES

#### 1. Community CARES Stabilization Grant One-time

One-time payment of at least $12,000 for charitable organizations and eligible provider organizations. Applicants must have sustained increased costs and/or lower revenue/income due to COVID-19. Total allocation: $40 million

**Applications open:** June 29-July 6, 2020  
**To apply:** dhhs.ne.gov/CommunityCares

#### 2. Community CARES Response & Recovery Grant (traditional grant)

Competitive grant opportunity for non-profits and eligible provider organizations that will help children, families and communities respond to and recover from the impacts of COVID-19. Funding can be used for homelessness prevention assistance, shelters, meal delivery for individuals with food access barriers, telehealth resources, PPE, community health services, behavioral health services, sanitation of public spaces, and more. Applications must include measurable outcomes. Funding is subject to federal grant subrecipient requirements and must be expended by December 30, 2020. Awards expected to be in the range of $50,000-$2,000,000. Total allocation: $43 million

**Applications open:** July 1-8, 2020  
**To apply:** dhhs.ne.gov/CommunityCares

#### 3. Community CARES Healthy Places Grant for Child Care Providers & Centers of Worship One-time

One-time payment of at least $250 for licensed childcare providers, license-exempt subsidy child care providers, and centers of worship. Funds will be used for the purchase of PPE and cleaning supplies. These health and safety supplies will help mitigate the spread of COVID-19 across Nebraska. Total allocation: $2 million

**Applications open:** July 6-12, 2020  
**To apply:** dhhs.ne.gov/CommunityCares

DHHS IS COMMITTED TO PRIORITIZING AVAILABLE FUNDS FOR UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES, INCLUDING AREAS OF HIGH POVERTY AND AREAS DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED BY COVID-19.
State Coronavirus Relief Funds:

Nebraska Broadband Grant (Remote Access Grant Program)

- 41 Communities; size 1,000 to 5,000 in population
- 26,285 households, 63,852 citizens impacted
- $1,500 per household (installation), approximately 14 of 31 telecoms in Nebraska are already doing business in these communities
- All communities targeted have less than 2% fiber to the home

Federal Administrator: --
State Agency Contact: --

3.96% total: $40,000,000

Nebraska Workforce Training Initiative

Provides training to unemployed and underemployed individuals in skillsets that create pathways to employment in high-demand careers and industries:

- DED will grant funds to all Nebraska community colleges for scholarships (12,363 total). Anyone who has lost work, or has been unable to find work, due to the coronavirus pandemic can apply for a scholarship (includes those who have seen a reduction in hours)
- On average, each scholarship will be around $1,100.
- Scholarship recipients will also receive:
  - A work-based learning experience with a Nebraska-based employer (e.g. an internship, beginning a registered apprenticeship, clinical hours, On-the Job Training program, etc.). comprehensive career coaching services with the college in partnership with NDOL.
- Online scholarship applications will be available by July 10th through the month of July.

Federal Administrator: --
State Agency Contact: --

1.48% total: $16,000,000
## State Coronavirus Relief Funds:

**Administrative Support to All Business Programs:**

- **Federal Administrator:** --
- **State Agency Contact:** --
- **Total:** $5,000,000
- **Percentage:** 0.46%

**Gallup Back to Business:**

- **Federal Administrator:** --
- **State Agency Contact:** --
- **Total:** $1,000,000
- **Percentage:** 0.09%

### Business Stabilization and Growth Training
Cross Cutting Funds:

total: $33,045,077

ESG–CV Second Round Funds
$11,560,916
34.98% of Relief Funds

CDBG–CV: First Round Funds
$11,269,634
34.10% of Relief Funds

ESG–CV First Round Funds
$5,432,189
16.44% of Relief Funds

CDBG–CV: Second Round Funds
$4,782,338
14.47% of Relief Funds

The following information is from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development:

Nebraska has received $6.4M to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19 through the CARES Act, intended to assist with the unique needs of low and moderate income persons.

Below are some examples of what the allocation can be utilized for:

- **Buildings/Public Facilities/Infrastructure:**
  - Build or rehab facilities for testing, diagnosis, treatment
  - Group living homes/quarantine facilities (HOUSING)

- **Public Services:**
  - Job training for healthcare workers and techs (lab)
  - Provide equipment, supplies, materials
  - Delivery of meals on wheels and other services to those quarantined or social distancing (FOOD)

- **Business Supports:**
  - Manufacture medical supplies
  - Provide cleaning, food delivery, medical services (Home Health)
CDBG Application Guideline Workshops:

The Nebraska Department of Economic Development (DED) is hosting a series of ten workshop webinars to inform and assist applicants who plan to seek CDBG funding during the July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 program year. The webinars are free and open to the public. The first webinar is a general application overview. The other nine will cover guidelines for the program year’s individual funding opportunities.

To review the 2020 CDBG application guidelines go to: https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/CDBGapplication.

Due to our new grant management system, AmpliFund, we are strongly encouraging everyone to attend webinars relevant to their interests because guidelines and requirements may have changed.

All workshop webinars will occur from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. CDT on the following dates:

- Water/Wastewater Application | June 25, 2020 | Register
- Tourism Development Application | June 30, 2020 | Register
- Youth Job Training Application | July 7, 2020 | Register
- Public Works Application | July 14, 2020 | Register
- Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Application | July 15, 2020 | Register
- Planning Application | July 21, 2020 | Register
- Downtown Revitalization Application | July 23, 2020 | Register

If you have any questions, please contact Anissa Rasmussen at anissa.rasmussen@nebraska.gov or 402-471-7999.


Apply Here Portal Links: The Department has added “Apply Here” direct links to our website, https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/CDBG, for the following opportunities: Emergent Threat, Owner Occupied Rehabilitation, Tourism Development, Youth Job Training, and Water/Wastewater. Individuals are able to download a copy of the application. On July 1, 2020 applicants can begin completing applications.

AmpliFund Guidance:

- If you have questions navigating or completing an application within AmpliFund, refer to this webpage: https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/amplifund/

Income Limits:

- HUD has updated the data for the Low and Moderate Income Persons on an Area Basis, https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/cdbg/cdbg-low-moderate-income-data/. The data has shifted slightly from last year. To look up your community, please use the information within the “Local Government Summaries”.
- CDBG Income Limits to qualify under LMH (Housing), LMC (Limited Clientele), and LMJ (Jobs) – this information has been released and is in effect beginning July 1, 2020. However the CPD Income Calculator has not been updated with the 2020 information. The CDBG Income Limits are located here, https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/5334/cdbg-income-limits/, however if you wish to have a friendly view of the income limits, you may use the HOME Income Limits, https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/home/home-income-limits/. The HOME and CDBG programs use the same calculation.
Community Development Block Grant:

(CDBG–CV Cross Funding)

CBDG–CV: First Round Funds:

34.10% total: $11,269,634

Federal Administrator: HUD
State Contact: LOC- Bradd Schmeichel | BSchmeichel@lincoln.ne.gov;
Omaha- nicole.engels@cityofomaha.org

Community Development Block Grant – CV Funds are distributed by
formula.

• The allocation for the City of Lincoln is $1,1415,912.
• The allocation for the City of Bellevue is $212,000.
• The allocation for the City of Grand Island is $250,000.
• Balance of State allocation is $6,486,296.

The Allocation of Omaha funding is broken down on the next page.

CBDG–CV: Second Round Funds:

14.47% total: $4,782,338

Federal Administrator: HUD
State Contact: LOC- Bradd Schmeichel | BSchmeichel@lincoln.ne.gov;
Omaha- nicole.engels@cityofomaha.org

Applicant CDBG–CV Budget Brief Project Description

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>CDBG–CV Budget</th>
<th>Brief Project Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North End Teleservices</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
<td>Create and retain jobs to support COVID-19 related contracts with the Nebraska Department of Labor and Nebraska Department of Health secured by NET.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska Enterprise Fund</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
<td>Small business and micro-Business support, training and technical assistance for businesses impacted by the recession caused by COVID-19. This program is not available to businesses who have benefited from other relief funds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONE World Community Health Centers</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
<td>Food delivery and case management for patients/households who have tested positive for COVID-19.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Indian Health Coalition</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>Case management focusing on behavioral health for LMI clients in Douglas County.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Drew Health Center</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>Case management focusing on behavioral health for LMI clients in Douglas County. Includes funding for additional testing supplies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No More Empty Pots</td>
<td>$115,000</td>
<td>Meal packaging for distribution through partnering agencies to LMI clients in Omaha. This program includes a workforce development component.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intercultural Senior Center</td>
<td>$60,000</td>
<td>Food delivery to LMI clients aged 50+ located in Omaha.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Administrative Costs</td>
<td>$59,717</td>
<td>City of Omaha staff costs and PPE.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MACCH</td>
<td>$1,500,000</td>
<td>Short-term rent, mortgage, and case management assistance for households who have been impacted by recession caused by COVID-19.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The CARES Act Funding Budget Proposal for Omaha’s allocation of $2,784,717 includes the following funding decisions for CDBG–CV:

Page 39 of 45
Emergency Solutions Grant:

(ESG–CV Cross Funding)

ESG–CV: First Round Funds:

16.44%

Federal Administrator: HUD
State Agency Contact: --

These funds are distributed by formula:
- Lincoln: $557,024.00
- Omaha: $1,392,755.00
- Balance of State: $3,482,410.00

ESG–CV: Second Round Funds:

34.98%

Federal Administrator: HUD
State Agency Contact: --

These funds are distributed by formula:
- Omaha: $4,214,066
- Lincoln: $2,320,897
- Balance of State: $5,025,953

---

ESG–CV: Second Round Funds:

Federal Administrator: HUD
State Agency Contact: --

Applicant ESG–CV Budget Brief Project Description

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>ESG–CV Budget</th>
<th>Brief Project Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Siena Francis House</td>
<td>$220,000</td>
<td>Emergency Shelter Operations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Together</td>
<td>$370,000</td>
<td>Rapid Re-housing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women's Center for Advancement</td>
<td>$210,000</td>
<td>Rapid Re-housing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heartland Family Service</td>
<td>$220,000</td>
<td>Homelessness Prevention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Emergency Services</td>
<td>$170,000</td>
<td>Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephen Center</td>
<td>$68,000</td>
<td>Emergency Shelter Operations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Alliance</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>Street Outreach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institute for Community Alliances</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>HMIS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholic Charities</td>
<td>$11,000</td>
<td>Emergency Shelter Operations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Administrative Costs</td>
<td>$48,755</td>
<td>Funding for MACCH to provide PPE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Omaha ESG–CV:

The CARES Act Funding Budget Proposal for Omaha's allocation of $1,392,755 includes the following funding decisions for ESG–CV:
Tribal Government Aid Funds:

- **Winnebago Tribe**
  - $1,500,382 to Welfare Assistance
  - $45,366 CV Distribution

- **Ponca Tribe of Nebraska**
  - $1,500,382 to Welfare Assistance
  - $45,366 CV Distribution

- **Santee Sioux Nation**
  - $968,997 to Welfare Assistance
  - $29,948 CV Distribution

- **Omaha Tribe**
  - $1,500,382 to Welfare Assistance
  - $63,371 CV Distribution

Total: $5,665,627
Omaha Tribe Funds

- Federal Administrator: --
- State Agency Contact: --
- Total: $1,563,753

These funds are distributed by formula:
- $1,500,382.00 to Welfare Assistance
- $63,371.00 to CV Distribution

Winnebago Tribe Funds

- Federal Administrator: --
- State Agency Contact: --
- Total: $1,557,181

These funds are distributed by formula:
- $1,500,382.00 to Welfare Assistance
- $56,799.00 to CV Distribution
Ponca Tribe of Nebraska

Federal Administrator: --
State Agency Contact: --

Total: $1,545,748

These funds are distributed by formula:

- $1,500,382.00 to Welfare Assistance
- $45,366.00 to CV Distribution

Santee Sioux Nation

Federal Administrator: --
State Agency Contact: --

Total: $998,945

These funds are distributed by formula:

- $968,997.00 to Welfare Assistance
- $29,948.00 to CV Distribution
Transportation Funds:

Urbanized Area Formula

$34,665,578

Federal administrator: DOT
State Agency Contact: LOC
RESOURCES:

- NDE Digital Learning Presentation
- NDE Letter to Nebraska Public School Superintendents, Non-Public School Administrators, and ESU Administrators June 18, 2020
  - https://planninghcd.cityofomaha.org/caresact
  - http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/COVID-19-Community-CARES.aspx
- First Five Nebraska: http://www.firstfivenebraska.org/blog/article/cares-act-funds-will-support-nebraskas-child-care-system-as-state-moves-tow#.
  - XvWEhihKjd4
- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children & Families: Head Start Early Childhood Learning & Knowledge Center
  - https://planninghcd.cityofomaha.org/caresact
  - https://www.bia.gov/covid-19/cares-act