

City of Topeka COVID Assistance Programs (Federal \$)

August 31, 2021

Planning & Development
Housing Services Division



Small Business Grants Program

Purpose:

The Small Business Grant Program provides operating assistance to business owners employing 1-25 persons and have suffered a loss due to COVID-19. The source of the funds is HUD's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-CV) program and therefore businesses must be owned or employ low-moderate income persons. The applicant can apply up to \$20,000 in assistance for eligible expenses that occurred after 3/17/20 including:

- Payroll
- Rent/Mortgage
- Utilities
- Loss of Inventory
- COVID Related Purchases

Applications will be accepted continuously until funding has been depleted. Applicants will have until October 20, 2021 to use the grant funds. Minority and Women owned businesses will receive priority in the selection process, and 25% of the total grant allocation will be set aside for MBE/WBE businesses. Grants can't duplicate funding requested and received through other federal sources or programs.

Small Business Grants Program Applications:

Applications Received	65
Applications Approved	30
In Reimbursement Process	8
Complete	22
Applications Declined	27
Incomplete	8
Applications in Process	
Approved MBE/WBE business	17

Notes:

Applications were accepted beginning 10/1/20. 44% of the funds have been committed and expensed. 57% are minority or woman owned businesses. The average grant for approved applications is \$19,090. Reasons for denial include not meeting income requirements, landlords wanting rent money, not in City limits, non-local chain etc.

Small Business Grants	Paid	Committed	Uncommitted	Grant Amt
TOTAL	\$485,552	\$113,223	\$762,303	\$1,361,078
Percentage of Total	36%	8%	56%	100%

Basic Needs Assistance Program

Purpose:

Operation COVID-19 Basic Needs Assistance Program is a foreclosure/eviction mitigation and utility prevention shut-off program created by the City of Topeka and administered by the Community Resources Council (CRC). \$1.9 million in CARES Act funds is available to qualified applicants to help cover expenses and help keep people housed and with utilities. The program is by appointment only. Applicants must be city residents, have Covid-related outstanding bills after March, 2020, and match no more than 100% of area median income.

COVID-19 Basic Needs Program Payments To:

	Amount Paid
City of Topeka - Water & WW	\$91,386
Internet Service	\$23,720
Landlord/Mortgage Company	\$732,430
Evergny	\$295,145
Kansas Gas Service	\$128,920

COVID Basic Needs Program	Paid	Committed	Uncommitted	Grant Amt
TOTAL	\$1,373,327	\$0	\$526,673	\$1,900,000
Percentage of Total	72%	0%	28%	100%

COVID-19 Basic Needs Program Applications:

Applications Approved	494
Files Waiting Verification	0
Applications Declined	78
Appointments Scheduled	1,282
No-Show Appointments	574
Appointment Days	146
# of Rescheduled Clients	183

Notes:

Applications were accepted beginning 12/1/20. 72% of the funds have been committed and expensed for an average of \$2,7780 per approved household.

More demographics:

34.7% minorities to date
10.9 % Hispanic
9.7 % Seniors

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Homeless Emergency Solutions Grant (HESG)

Homeless Emergency Solutions Grant (HESG) is a competitive grant process that agencies can apply for each year. The Continuum of Care approves the selection of the sub-recipients. HESG can only be spent for Rapid-Rehousing, Homeless Prevention, Homeless Management Information System and Shelter Operations. HESG is funded by HUD. The City was awarded nearly \$1.9M of HESG for COVID-19 related expenses (HESG-CV) to prevent homelessness in 2020.

HESG-CV	Paid	Committed	Uncommitted	Grant Amt
Homeless Prevention (HP)	\$123,527	\$0	\$203,604	\$327,131
Catholic Charities	\$30,089	\$0	\$4,911	\$35,000
Community Action	\$38,801	\$0	\$96,199	\$135,000
Doorstep	\$42,521	\$0	\$42,879	\$85,400
COT Water Assistance	\$12,116	\$0	\$59,615	\$71,731
Shelter Operations	\$552,113	\$0	\$420,135	\$972,248
Topeka Rescue Mission	\$298,472	\$0	\$106,528	\$405,000
YWCA	\$253,641	\$0	\$313,607	\$567,248
Rapid Rehousing (RR)	\$206,431	\$0	\$378,947	\$585,378
Catholic Charities	\$11,567	\$0	\$3,434	\$15,000
Community Action	\$26,892	\$0	\$63,108	\$90,000
Doorstep	\$15,714	\$0	\$69,664	\$85,378
Topeka Rescue Mission	\$152,259	\$0	242,741	\$395,000
Total HESG-CV	\$882,072	\$0	\$1,002,685	\$1,884,757
Percentage of Total	47%	0%	53%	100%

HESG Number Assisted:	
Households Assisted (HP/RRH)	195
Children Assisted (HP/RRH)	188
Adults Assisted (HP/RRH)	272
Unduplicated People in Shelter	1,070

Covid Testing Unit Grant

COVID Testing Unit	Paid	Committed	Uncommitted	Grant Amt
Total	\$166,389	\$0	\$0	\$166,389
Percentage of Total	100%	0%	0%	100%