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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Please consider this for publication. As part of the federal requirements we are required to issue a press release to inform the community and potential grantees of the availability of funds.

Lake County Awarded \$361,819 for Emergency Food and Shelter Programs (EFSP)

(LAKE COUNTY), July 22, 2019 – Lake County, Illinois has been awarded Federal Funds made available through the Department of Homeland Security.

Lake County, IL has been chosen to receive \$361,819 to supplement emergency food and shelter programs in the county.

The selection was made by a National Board that is chaired by the U. S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency and consists of representatives from American Red Cross; Catholic Charities, USA; National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA; The Jewish Federations of North America, The Salvation Army; and United Way Worldwide. The Local Board was charged to distribute funds appropriated by Congress to help expand the capacity of food and shelter programs in high-need areas around the country.

A Local Board made up of representatives from United Way of Lake County, The Salvation Army, Community Action Partnership, Catholic Charities of Lake County, Lake County Workforce Development, The Lake County Board and other key organizations will determine how the funds awarded to Lake County are to be distributed among the emergency food and shelter programs run by local service agencies in the area. The Local Board is responsible for recommending agencies to receive these funds and any additional funds made available under this phase of the program.

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Under the terms of the grant from the National Board, local agencies chosen to receive funds must: 1) be private voluntary non-profits or units of government, 2) be eligible to receive Federal funds, 3) have an accounting system, 4) practice nondiscrimination, 5) have the capability to deliver emergency food and/or shelter programs, and 6) if they are a private voluntary organization, have a voluntary board. Qualifying agencies are urged to apply.

Lake County, IL has distributed Emergency Food and Shelter funds previously with A Safe Place, Northern Illinois Food Bank, Lake County Housing Consortium managed by Catholic Charities Lake County Services, Maristella, Most Blessed Trinity, and PADS Lake County, Inc. participating. These agencies were responsible for providing thousands of meals and hundreds of nights of lodging and emergency shelter.

The purpose of the EFSP is to supplement and expand the ongoing work of local social service organizations to provide shelter, food and supportive services to individuals and families who have economic emergencies. Along these lines, and to best support the existing safety net system in the County, the EFSP board in phase 36 will prioritize shelter and food programs over homeless prevention and mortgage programs.

Successful applicants will demonstrate an ability to manage federal grants. Additionally, EFSP requests should not comprise more than 50% of a program's budget. Programs awarded funds must participate in the County's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and Coordinated Entry process when applicable.

Public or private voluntary agencies interested in applying for Emergency Food and Shelter Program funds may visit <https://www.lakecountyil.gov/1907/Applicants> for more information on the application. Applications should be emailed. **The deadline for applications to be received is Thursday, August 1 at 5 p.m.**

Applications received after the deadline will not be accepted. For further information about the EFSP grants call, Eric Foote, Lake County EFSP Local Board Chair at 847-377-7732 or efoote@lakecountyil.gov at Lake County Community Development.

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