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# MEMORANDUM

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Date: April 13, 2021

To: The Honorable Chair and Members  
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry  
County Administrator 

Re: **Advance Funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Regarding the Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP)**

We were recently notified by FEMA that the County will be the recipient of an advance grant from FEMA's Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) in the amount of \$2,126,370.72. This is a three-month advance for anticipated costs associated with providing emergency food and shelter for asylum seekers.

These individuals are released to participating nonprofit entities who will provide transitional shelter for asylum seekers after they are released from the custody of the U.S. Border Patrol. At present, they are transported by Pima County to the Casa Alitas Welcome Center (operated by Catholic Community Services) who then assist asylum seekers to their final point of destination in the United States.

Typically, these individuals spend 36 to 48 hours in a transitional shelter such as Casa Alitas, during which time they receive medical clearance and medical related services, food, shelter and have final transportation arrangements made for them as well as transportation from the transitional shelter to an appropriate transportation hub.

The County was approved by the local FEMA EFSP Board as a fiduciary and/or fiscal agent for this three-month advance to pay for costs associated with the asylum seeker transition services, including the cost of renting hotel/motel rooms for individuals who cannot be housed in traditional congregate shelters due to COVID-19 spacing restrictions.

All costs associated with medical assistance, food, shelter and transportation services will be reimbursed from this grant. This includes our transportation costs from Ajo as well as City costs for hotels/motel rooms.

CHH/anc

c: Jan Leshner, Chief Deputy County Administrator  
Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator for Public Works  
Francisco García, MD, MPH, Deputy County Administrator & Chief Medical Officer,  
Health and Community Services  
Regina Kelly, Director, Grants Management and Innovation Office  
Amy Fish, Deputy Director, Grants Management and Innovation Office