



MEMORANDUM

Date: May 8, 2023

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

From: Jan Leshner 
County Administrator

Re: **Additional Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) Funding to Pima County**

On Friday, May 5, 2023, Pima County was notified that the National Board for the Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) has awarded Pima County an additional \$19,291,191.45 in funding to provide humanitarian services for individuals and families encountered by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) at the southern border. This additional funding makes it possible for Pima County to continue to provide services to legal asylum seekers who are brought to our community.

Pima County's Department of Grants Management & Innovation is the fiscal agent for this funding and it is their understanding that this award will be the last grant award from the federal FEMA EFSP Humanitarian program. FEMA EFSP will no longer provide grant funding to support humanitarian efforts addressing U.S. southern border asylum seeker crisis. A new federal grant program addressing this crisis will begin shortly: i.e., Customs Border Protection Shelter and Services Program (SSP), to be administered by the FEMA Grants Directorate. The first SSP Notice of Funding Opportunity is expected to be made available some time in next few weeks.

This \$19 million grant award relates to most recent FEMA EFSP Humanitarian competitive round and brings the total received to cover legal asylum seeker humanitarian related costs to \$29,476,229.32. While Pima County previously estimated that funding would be available to provide service for this humanitarian through June 2023, it is now estimated that services will be funded through September 30, 2023. This estimate assume that Pima County receives 600 to 800 unique asylees per day.

Next Round of Grant Revenue Opportunity:

As referenced above the Shelter and Services Program (SSP) Notice of Funding Opportunity should be released publicly within next few weeks. After grant application submittal rounds and scoring/weighting is completed, SSP awards will be announced in September 2023 (according to webinar comments by FEMA Grants Directorate leadership). The SSP grant award performance period is expected to be 12 months.

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c: Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator
Francisco García, MD, MPH, Deputy County Administrator & Chief Medical Officer
Steve Holmes, Deputy County Administrator
Ellen Moulton, Director, Finance and Risk Management
Regina Kelly, Director, Grants Management & Innovation
Shane Clark, Director, Office of Emergency Management
Terri Spencer, Director, Procurement
Tony Cisneros, Interim Director, Facilities Management
Monica Perez, Chief of Staff, County Administration