

## COVID-19 Emergency Disaster Relief Payment Program Policy

- A.** Similar to many other governments across the world, the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians has declared a Tribal State of Emergency during the COVID -19 Emergency Disaster.
- B.** As a result of the impact of the global COVID-19 Emergency Disaster, LTBB Citizens have experienced unanticipated losses and additional expenditures. Such losses include loss of income from employment or business interruption. Unanticipated additional expenditures included sanitizing supplies, personal protection equipment, increased food costs, increased utility costs, increased health-care costs and other general health and welfare expenses. The COVID-19 Emergency Disaster has also imperiled LTBB Citizens' ability to meet basic living expenses, such as mortgage and rent.
- C.** This program will provide Emergency Disaster Relief Payments to LTBB Tribal Citizens to help meet their needs created by the following situations:
1. Persons who have been affected by the State of Michigan's "Stay Home, Stay Safe" executive order or other similar Government Orders.
  2. Persons who are or have suffered from employment or business interruptions.
  3. Persons who are or have been quarantined.
  4. Persons who are or have been infected with COVID-19.
  5. Persons who have experienced additional expenditures including sanitizing supplies, personal protection equipment, higher food costs, higher utility costs, health-care cost, technology and internet for K-12 and higher education and other general health and welfare expenses related to the COVID-19 Emergency Disaster.
- D.** The Tribe has determined that a COVID-19 Emergency Disaster Relief Payment to Tribal Citizens is a necessary expenditure to meet the needs of its Tribal Citizens. LTBB Tribal Citizens have faced unforeseen financial needs and risks created by the COVID-19 emergency disaster. As the situation was unforeseen, assistance to Tribal Citizens was not in the Tribal approved FY 2020 budget. However, as the Tribe has received funding from the CARES Act, the Tribe is offering the COVID-19 Emergency Disaster Economic Relief in the form of a one-time payment of \$1,500.00 per Tribal Citizen to mitigate the costs incurred by Tribal Citizens as listed in Section C.
- E.** Due to the emergency nature of this program, the affect COVID-19 has had across the world and especially within the United States, the unprecedented levels of unemployment and

business closures, and the social distancing measures in place resulting in Tribal Offices being closed to the public, as a matter of administrative feasibility and expediency, payments will be processed as a one-time benefit mailed to each Tribal Citizen at their last known address.

F. The Tribe will provide each LTBB Citizen the program eligibility criteria. In order to be eligible for this program, the Tribal Citizen or parent/guardian of a Tribal Citizen will make the following Certification of eligibility:

*Signing this check, for myself or as parent/guardian, I CERTIFY that I meet the eligibility for the COVID -19 Emergency Disaster Relief Payment.*

G. The COVID-19 Emergency Disaster Relief Payment to Tribal Citizens will be tax exempt under the WOS 2017-002 General Welfare Statute.

This Policy was approved by Tribal Council on: May 21, 2020

Julie Shananaquet                      05.22.2020  
Julie Shananaquet, Tribal Council Secretary      Date