



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Borough of Chambersburg

A full service municipality in Franklin County celebrating over 65 years of consumer owned natural gas service over 120 years of community electric and a regional wastewater, water, storm sewer and municipal solid waste utility

SCCAP TO PROVIDE CDBG-CV FOOD, RENT, MORTGAGE AND UTILITY ASSISTANCE TO CHAMBERSBURG BOROUGH RESIDENTS

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September 14, 2021

Chambersburg, Pennsylvania – The Borough of Chambersburg is pleased to announce a partnership with South Central Community Action Programs (SCCAP) to administer the Chambersburg CDBG-CV program.

In 2020 the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) allocated \$383,213 to the Borough through the Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) program to be used to prevent, prepare for and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Town Council recently approved an Agreement with SCCAP to use the CDBG-CV funding to support Borough residents with food pantry assistance and rent, mortgage and/or utility assistance programs.

Alice Elia, Town Council President, said “We are delighted to partner with SCCAP to support Borough families that are struggling as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.”

Any person assisted with services must meet low and moderate income limits established by HUD for the Chambersburg area. For example, a family of four could have an annual income of \$62,650 or less to qualify for assistance.

“We’re excited to administer this important program,” said Megan Shreve, CEO of SCCAP, “which will augment services SCCAP already provides to Borough residents. We know there are families in need in the Borough and encourage them to contact us soon, as great demand for this funding is expected.”

SCCAP will use \$284,401 to assist approximately 90 low and moderate income residents with up to six months of past-due rent, mortgage and/or utility payments because of temporary job loss, reduction in work hours or other income hardship caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, beginning March 6, 2020 or later.

"The pandemic has impacted families, landlords, and utility companies alike," added Jeffrey Stonehill, Borough Manager. "When families struggle to pay their bills, landlords and utility providers struggle as well. In addition, government imposed moratoriums on utility disconnection and eviction caused shared financial hardship. At the Borough, we've attempted to craft a use for this federal assistance that can help everyone from qualified low and moderate income families to the small businesses that felt the impact."

In addition, \$98,812 will be used by the Chambersburg Food Pantry, which is operated by SCCAP, to provide food for approximately 125 low and moderate income residents that have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic through loss of employment or reduction in income.

Guy Shaul, Community and Economic Development Specialist said, “SCCAP’s food pantry has been a critical resource throughout the pandemic but we know there are still Borough families in need. We encourage them to reach out to SCCAP for help from the CDBG-CV program.”

Applicants will be required to complete a self-certification form to verify household income to include age, disability and verification of impact by the COVID-19 pandemic. Residency will be verified by comparing their address with a map of the Borough. Rent, mortgage and/or utility assistance will require copies eviction notices or other documentation from landlords or lenders and utility bills indicating past due amounts. Your landlord, mortgage company and/or utility provider must agree to participate in the program. No payments will be made directly to eligible individuals or families.

CDBG-CV funds can be used for program costs incurred by SCCAP, with up to 20% of the \$383,213 being made available for program administration costs.

For more information about the Chambersburg CDBG-CV program please go to www.sccap.org/relief. Applicants will be offered assistance in English and Spanish.

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Chambersburg is a unique community. Chambersburg supplies more services than any other municipality in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. In addition to typical town functions, Chambersburg is Pennsylvania’s only municipality supplying electric and gas. Chambersburg is 1 of 35 Boroughs to operate a municipal non-profit electric utility. Chambersburg is the largest municipal electric utility in the State, twice as large as the second largest, Ephrata, Lancaster County; and, the only one to operate generation stations. Chambersburg is 1 of 2 municipalities in PA to operate a natural gas utility. The other is Philadelphia, which does not operate an electric utility. Nationally, Chambersburg is 1 of 2,000 communities to have its own electric system and 1 of 800 communities to have a natural gas system but 1 of only about 50 to operate both. Chambersburg manages a regional water system, a regional sanitary sewer system (not through an independent Authority), and a new storm sewer utility; one of the first storm sewer utilities to form under the new Federal mandate to regulate stormwater.

Chambersburg currently has 20,508 residents (2013).