



COVID-19 (CORONA VIRUS) MEMBER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

“ Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.” James 1: 2-4

PROGRAM SCOPE

The church is commanded by God to help the poor, the sick, and those in need. The COVID-19 Assistance Program is designed to provide temporary benevolence or relief to FBC members who are financially challenged as a direct result of this pandemic. The assistance program strives to identify those members and to assist with qualified needs. The program will launch on June 1, 2020.

To be considered for assistance, applicants must be a member of the Friendship Baptist Church. The program is being funded through generous donations by FBC members, outside organizations, and individuals who want to help those in need during this COVID-19 pandemic. The scope of the program is to distribute an equal amount of funds to those that apply and meet the qualifications. The program is dependent on the total dollar amount donated. The goal, however, is to distribute thirty (30), \$500 grants to thirty (30) individuals or families that qualify for assistance.

QUALIFICATIONS:

The qualifications for this program are:

- ✓ Applicants must be an active FBC member in good standing within the last six months;
- ✓ Applicants must be an active tither/giver to the church;
- ✓ Applicants attendance must be validated within the last six months through church office;
- ✓ Applicants must demonstrate that the COVID-19 pandemic has inflicted a financial burden to them and their family in the last three months;
- ✓ Applicants must also illustrate how this grant if awarded, would ease their financial/family situation.

Application Process:

- ✓ The church will provide an application both on-line at the church for pick-up.
- ✓ Applications shall be submitted by June 30, 2021.
- ✓ Applications will be reviewed, and a written response will be sent within 30 days.

Availability of Funds for Assistance:

- ✓ The assistance funds are determined by the total amount received. Each approved applicant is awarded a grant. The program's goal is to have 30 grants for distribution.
- ✓ As an example: If the fund received a total of \$15,000, and the number of approved applicants is 30. Then each applicant would receive a one-time \$500 grant.
- ✓ If the assistance funds exceed \$15,000, then additional grants would be awarded.
- ✓ The grant distributions will be limited to one per household.
- ✓ A combined committee of FBC individuals will manage the awarding of funds from the Trustee and Deacon Ministries.

Evaluation Process:

- ✓ All submitted applications will be forwarded to the review committee.
- ✓ Each application will be evaluated once the committee receives it.
- ✓ Upon review, the committee will determine if the application meets the IRS guidelines for benevolent giving as well as the assistance program's qualifications.
- ✓ The committee will then determine if the application is approved or not.
- ✓ Each application will be reviewed in the order they were received (first come, first served).

COVID-19 Assistance Committee:

All questions and concerns will be submitted to the COVID-19 Assistance Committee lead by Deacons Lawrence Gibbs and James H. Shelby.