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Cameron County HAS BEEN AWARDED STATE SET-ASIDE FEDERAL FUNDS MADE AVAILABLE THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY (DHS)/FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY UNDER THE EMERGENCY FOOD AND SHELTER NATIONAL BOARD PROGRAM.

Cameron County has been chosen to receive \$93,341.00 to supplement emergency food and shelter programs in the county.

The selection was made by a National Board that is chaired by the U. S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency and consists of representatives from American Red Cross; Catholic Charities, USA; National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA; The Jewish Federations of North America, The Salvation Army; and, United Way Worldwide. The Local Board was charged to distribute funds appropriated by Congress to help expand the capacity of food and shelter programs in high-need areas around the country.

A Local Board made up of (the Mayor, United Way, et al.) will determine how the funds awarded to Cameron County are to be distributed among the emergency food and shelter programs run by local service agencies in the area. The Local Board is responsible for recommending agencies to receive these funds and any additional funds made available under this phase of the program.

Under the terms of the grant from the National Board, local agencies chosen to receive funds must: 1) be private voluntary non-profits or units of government, 2) be eligible to receive Federal funds, 3) have an accounting system, 4) practice nondiscrimination, 5) have demonstrated the capability to deliver emergency food and/or shelter programs, and 6) if they are a private voluntary organization, have a voluntary board. Qualifying agencies are urged to apply.

Cameron County has distributed Emergency Food and Shelter funds previously with Good Neighbor Settlement House, Bishop Enrique San Pedro Ozanam Center, Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley, The Salvation Army, Loaves and Fishes of the Rio Grande Valley, Food Bank of the Rio Grande Valley, La Posada Providencia, and Friendship of Women.

Public or private voluntary agencies interested in applying for Phase 40 Emergency Food and Shelter Program funds must contact Sr. Norma Pimentel, Catholic Charities of the RGV, P.O. Box 1306, San Juan, Texas 78589, or (956) 702-4088 **for an application**. The deadline for submitting applications to Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley is **June 23, 2023 by 5:00 p.m. (ALL applications must be hand delivered)**