



STATE OF WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

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November 18, 2020

Cheryl Strange, Secretary
Department of Social and Health Services
P.O. Box 45010
Olympia, WA 98504-5010

Dear Secretary Strange:

On April 20, 2020, I allocated \$15.6 million from the Disaster Response Account to the Department of Social and Health Services pursuant to enactment of Engrossed House Bill 2965, related to the state's response to COVID-19. On June 24, 2020, I reduced the allocation for the Disaster Cash Assistance Program by \$1.3 million, and on November 5, 2020, I reduced the allocation for the TANF Extension and Sanction Reduction by \$400,000, leaving an allocation of \$13.9 million. This allocation was provided solely for the purposes described below.

TANF Extension and Sanction Reduction – \$1.1 million allocation to enable the department to reduce non-compliance sanctions for TANF recipients in April while many WorkFirst services are suspended due to the coronavirus. It also temporarily extends the 60-month lifetime limit during the outbreak.

Disaster Cash Assistance Program – \$11.3 million allocation to provide assistance to individuals and families without children in April, pursuant to Governor's Proclamation 20-18 which expanded eligibility for the Family Emergency Assistance Program.

Food Assistance Program – \$1.5 million allocation to fund the required match for the Food Assistance Program in March and April for the benefit level of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

I hereby reduce this allocation to \$0, and pursuant to enactment of the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (P.L. 116-136), allocate \$13.9 million to the Department of Social and Health Services from General Fund-Federal (Coronavirus Relief Funds) for the same purpose.

According to guidance issued by the federal government on the Coronavirus Relief Funds, for a cost to be considered to have been incurred, the performance or delivery must take place by December 30, 2020, but payment can occur up to 90 days afterwards.

The Office of Financial Management has approved this allocation in Unanticipated Receipt #0166. Using expenditure authority code 7Z0 for General Fund-Federal (Coronavirus Relief Funds) and expenditure authority code 6CO for the Disaster Response Account reduction, please submit the required allotment amendment packet to OFM using the "Operating Allocation" packet type.

If you have questions, contact OFM Budget Operations at (360) 902-0555 or budget.operations@ofm.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

David Schumacher
Director

cc: Charlie Gavigan, Staff Coordinator, House Appropriations Committee
Michael Bezanson, Staff Coordinator, Senate Ways and Means Committee
Nona Snell, Assistant Director for Budget, Office of Financial Management
Robyn Williams, Senior Budget Assistant, Office of Financial Management
Judy Fitzgerald, CFO, Department of Social and Health Services