

**CITY OF BLOOMINGTON TOWNSHIP
ORDINANCE NO. 2020 - 04**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CREATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A
COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROGRAM FOR ELIGIBLE RESIDENTS
OF CITY OF BLOOMINGTON TOWNSHIP**

WHEREAS, the City of Bloomington Township (the “Township”) is a unit of local government of McLean County, Illinois; and

WHEREAS, the Township has closely monitored the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the residents of the Township; and

WHEREAS, the Township continues to utilize existing policies and programs to assist as many residents as possible with various financial and social needs related to the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as all other continued needs; and

WHEREAS, the Township Supervisor and Board of Trustees have determined there are significant, unintended, and negative financial consequences related to COVID-19 for many residents of the Township who may not otherwise qualify under such existing policies and programs; and

WHEREAS, the Township Supervisor and Board of Trustees have determined that it is necessary and in the best interests of the Township to help alleviate these further hardships by creating a new relief program as further described in this Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Illinois Township Code, including Section 85-13 (60 ILCS 1/85-13), a Township is authorized to expend funds for matters related to public safety, health, and social services for those in need; and

WHEREAS, the Township has existing financial reserves in its General Town Fund that can be utilized for such matters related to the public safety, health, and social services for those in need; and

WHEREAS, the Township Supervisor and Board of Trustees have determined that establishing a Community Emergency Response Program to support Township residents who are otherwise unable to receive support from any other source during the current crisis is necessary and desirable, and is supported by the Township’s express statutory power to spend funds on matters related to public safety, health, and social services for those in need.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. All recitals contained in the above WHEREAS clauses are hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of this Ordinance.

Section 2. That the Township Supervisor and Board of Trustees hereby establish the City of Bloomington Township Community Emergency Response Program (the “Program”), consistent with this Ordinance.

- a. Program Oversight. The Township Supervisor is authorized to implement, administer, and otherwise oversee the Program consistent with the guidelines set forth in this Ordinance. The Board of Trustees shall retain budgetary oversight.
- b. Eligibility. In order to be eligible for the Program, an applicant must:
 - i. Submit the McLean County Emergency Assistance application for the Program (or any other form approved by the Township);
 - ii. Be a resident of the Township continuously for at least the last three (3) months from the date of submission of the application;
 - iii. Be at or below 200% Federal Poverty Level. The federal poverty guidelines are **one measure of poverty** within the United States. They are released annually and used to determine financial eligibility for federal programs and benefits.
 - iv. Hold a government issued ID card or valid driver’s license;
 - v. Be financially unable to alleviate a life-threatening circumstance which places the individual or family at risk for homelessness or be unable to pay a work-related expense necessary to maintain employment (i.e. attain self-sufficiency) due to impact of COVID-19 on their income;
 - vi. Community Emergency Response grant amount must be sufficient to alleviate the life-threatening circumstance or pay a work-related expense;
 - vii. Demonstrate they have exhausted their eligibility in and/or are ineligible for all other federal, state, and local resources (including the Township’s General and Emergency Assistance programs) before applying for the Program;
 - viii. Be an adult, eighteen (18) years or older, who is not residing either with a financially responsible adult relative, legal guardian, or a natural or adoptive parent;
 - ix. In a Family Case, the adult must be the financially responsible relative of each child listed in the household;

- x. Unmarried, unemancipated minors (i.e., under the age of 18) who are not residing either with a financially-responsible adult relative, legal guardian, or his/her natural or adoptive parent.
- c. Eligibility Decisions. The Township Supervisor shall make all decisions regarding eligibility and awards for relief to an applicant under the Program.
- d. Amount of Relief. All applicants deemed eligible for funds under the Program shall receive relief in the amount of \$1000 maximum through December 31, 2020.
- e. Payment of Relief. No payments from the Program shall go directly to an applicant. Any payment under the Program shall be made by the Township directly to a vendor (i.e., landlord, utility company, etc.).
- f. Right to Reapply. Any applicant denied relief under the Program has the right to reapply at any time. Any applicant approved and provided relief under the Program may be eligible for additional funds until either the \$1000 maximum or the Program end date of December 31, 2020 is reached.
- g. Funding of the Program. Consistent with Illinois law, including the Illinois Municipal Budget Law (50 ILCS 330/), the Board of Trustees has or will authorize the appropriation(s) needed and authorizes the Township Supervisor to take all necessary steps for the Program. Specifically, the Board authorizes the expenditure of a maximum total of \$100,000.00 from the General Town Fund for the Program. However, the Township Supervisor and Board of Trustees agree that all other federal, state and local funds (CDBG, CSBG, Charity/Churches, Township's GA/EA) for COVID-19 related community relief held by any of the agencies of the Coalition shall be utilized for the Program before any of these appropriated funds.
- h. Conclusion of the Program. The Program shall expire upon the expenditure of those funds appropriated by the Board of Trustees for the Program or December 31, 2020, whichever shall occur first.

Section 3. In the event that any part or parts of this Ordinance shall be declared to be invalid or unenforceable by a Court of competent jurisdiction, such adjudication shall in no way affect or impair the validity or enforceability of any of the remaining provisions, portions, or clauses of this Ordinance that may be given effect without such invalid or unenforceable part or parts.

Section 4. That all ordinances, resolutions, motions, or parts thereof, in conflict with any of the provisions of this Ordinance, are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section 5. That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

PASSED this 29th day of June, 2020, at a duly and properly noticed and convened meeting of the City of Bloomington Township Board of Trustees.

Deborah L. Skillrud
Township Supervisor

ATTEST:

Leslie Yocum
Township Clerk