



## **Hidalgo County COVID Condolence Program Amendments**

### **Background:**

On August 4, 2020, Hidalgo County allocated \$2 million of CARES funds for the Hidalgo County COVID Condolence Program to assist eligible individuals who have lost a loved one due to COVID-19 with up to \$2,000 for funeral expenditures. This program is not retroactive therefore, leaving many in the community with a heavy financial burden. As of August 4th, Hidalgo County had over 700 COVID related deaths.

### **Amendments:**

Hidalgo County received numerous requests for funeral expense assistance from families that obtained loans and/or endured hardships to pay for unexpected deaths. The following amendments are recommended based on the response and demand received from the launch of the Program.

- Program will be retroactive to March 17, 2020 (date emergency order issued).
- Additional required documentation for eligible applicants:
  1. Applicant must provide a W9 Form
  2. Applicant must provide a Social Security Card
  3. Applicant must provide Identification (Picture ID)
  4. Applicant must provide proof of loss of income (hardship funeral costs)
  5. Applicant must provide a paid receipt and funeral home contract/agreement
  6. Executed Reimbursement Request Form
  7. Other documentation as needed