



Essential Critical Infrastructure Business

On March 23, 2020, Governor Inslee issued an Executive Order directing all residents immediately to heed current State public health directives to stay home, except as needed to maintain continuity of operations of essential critical infrastructure sectors and additional sectors as the State Public Health Officer may designate as critical to protect health and well-being of all Washingtonians.

Under [Essential Businesses, Health Care/Public Health](#), essential workforce stipulates “Workers who support food, shelter, and social services, and other necessities of life for economically disadvantaged or otherwise needy individuals, such as those residing in shelters.”

Currently Centro Latino is providing the following essential resources for our communities in need via phone lines and at our location and will be following the social distance requirements instituted by Governor Jay Inslee. Centro Latino prioritizes the need of our community to have language accessibility to all of our information which will be provided.

Emergency Financial Assistance

Centro Latino continues to offer our Emergency Financial Assistance for any domestic violence or sexual abuse victim, who reside within South King, Pierce and North Thurston counties. Clients seeking support and advocacy through Centro Latino will work closely with a Bilingual Advocate who will assist the client in completing the intake process (Safety Planning, Shelter referral and Legal assistance. If for safety reasons it is deemed necessary, client will first be referred to confidential shelters. If shelter is not a option due to no space or family size, funding can be applied for a hotel or some other form of temporary housing until permanent housing is achieved. Centro Latino has funding of up to \$3,000 per client for relocation services or a max of \$2000 for other allowable expenses.

Centro Latino funding will be used for a variety of emergency needs but not limited to the following:

- Safety and Security- Services that can ensure safety, such as locksmith services to change or install locks, replacement of doors or windows.
- Housing and Relocation- Funding can also be used to assist clients with move in assistance such as, deposit, up to 3 months’ rent (capped at \$3,000 per client), utilities, eviction charges that are preventing client’s relocation.
- Emergent Needs- Funding allows gift card allocation to clients who are fleeing or have been a victim of a crime. Gift cards are limited to gas cards. Walmart Cards that can be used for food, diapers, formula, medicine, clothes or shoes or any other supply that can be considered an emergent need. Goodwill cards for emergency items such as clothes, blankets, towels or household items needed during the relocation process into a new home.

Census + Food Bank Location Site

Centro Latino will be providing quality and essential food items to our Latino and Indigenous communities of Pierce County. Additionally, on every box there will be educational material about the importance of Census completion as well as information about the resources of housing assistance, IRS extension deadline, COVID-19, USCIS information, Suspension of Real ID Act and any other useful information.

Schools supplies for Tacoma School District Students

Centro Latino will be providing a print format of the supplemental packages that Tacoma Public Schools Districts has made available for all Pre-K to 12th grade students. These are not meant to be educational resources or a substitute for classroom instruction but will help students practice their skills and learn independently during the closure.

Resources for Undocumented Families

Centro Latino continues to gather information regarding the needs of undocumented families. To date, there are approximately 35 families who need financial assistance in the following categories; housing, food, auto payments, utilities, and childcare. It is the intention of Centro Latino to request funding from various sources to supplement the needs of the undocumented families. It is anticipated that these number will increase as the information is disseminated in the community. Centro Latino will continue to serve as a clearing house for our undocumented families.

For more information contact Centro Latino Executive Director, Dr. Bernal Baca at bbaca@clatino.org or 509.961.7840. You can also contact Deputy Director, Yazmin Aguilar at yaguilar@clatino.org 509.792.4539.