

Tribal Government of Sitka, Alaska

June 23, 2020

Dear Tribal Citizens:

Sitka Tribe of Alaska (STA) council and administration are aware of the impacts that our Tribal Citizens are experiencing due to the COVID-19 pandemic. STA administration has taken necessary and appropriate action to combat COVID-19, including closing the tribal offices, having only essential employees on site, and observing the shelter-in-place order mandates. These hunker down orders have resulted in job loss for many. These actions have financially overwhelmed our citizens and we acknowledge your needs for relief far exceed what can be offered by states and municipalities at this time. STA wants to help and is pleased to inform you of immediate assistance available.

On June 17, 2020, the Tribal Council approved the STA COVID-19 budgets allocating a large portion of the funds received from the Cares Act funding. An emergency distribution of \$250 for each Tribal Citizen regardless of residency or age was approved for citizens of record as of June 17, 2020. An additional \$1500 per household (living in Sitka) and \$500 per household (residing outside of Sitka) was approved. These funds are intended to help our citizens in paying for rent/mortgage, utilities, heating fuel, and essential food in the time of pandemic. The Cares Act Financial Assistance form will be available beginning June 24 on the STA webpage, on the STA Facebook page, outside the office locations at 456 Katlian Street and 204 Siginaka Way, or can be emailed/faxed to you. Applications will be accepted beginning June 24, 2020 and must be received by September 30, 2020.

Applications will be reviewed and processed as they are received. We encourage you to submit your application as soon as possible; it is imperative that the applicants fully complete the application. Once approved, checks will be mailed. If you are changing your address to a residence within Sitka, provide proof of residency. See the application for more details on what types of proof may be used.

STA has more programs than those detailed above available to provide assistance to citizens that qualify, please check the local newspaper, STA webpage, and STA Facebook page for information on the additional assistance available.

If you have any questions, please contact our staff at <a href="mailto:cares@sitkatribe-nsn.gov">cares@sitkatribe-nsn.gov</a> or you can call 907-747-3207.

Sincerely,

KathyHope Erickson Tribal Chairman