



## **Shiwits Band of Paiutes COVID ARPA SLFRF**

# **Distribution Plan**

### **BACKGROUND**

President Biden's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) created the Coronavirus State and Local Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program to deliver much needed aid to state, territories, municipalities, and Tribal governments.

The key objectives for ARPA SLFRF awards include the following:

- Support the urgent COVID-19 response efforts to continue to decrease spread of the virus and bring the pandemic under control.
- Replace lost revenue for eligible recipients to strengthen support for vital public services and help retain jobs
- Support immediate economic stabilization for households and businesses.
- Address systemic public health and economic challenges that have contributed to the inequal impact of the pandemic on certain populations.

### **SHIWITS BAND PROGRAM**

The Shiwits Band Council acted quickly to make sure our Band members are protected and get the most out of the funding, so we worked to get the ARPA funding awarded directly to the Shiwits Band. We succeeded in getting \$1,644,736.84 in COVID-19 recovery funds from the SLFRF program. We want to administer the funds quickly and fairly in a way that benefits our Band members directly, without losing time and money going through PITU.

The Shivwits Band Council is required to allocate and disburse these funds in a manner consistent with SLRFR objectives and guidelines. Fund distribution has been approved by the Band Council in Resolution 2021-12, as follows:

1. Financial assistance payments to enrolled Shivwits Band adult member individuals to provide immediate COVID impact relief in the sum of:
  - A. \$4,500 to every Shivwits Band elder, defined for this purpose as adults that are 55 years of age by December 31, 2021, and
    1. approximately 59 elders
    2. approximately \$265,500
  - B. \$4,200 to every other Shivwits Band adult between the ages of 18 and 54 by December 31, 2021.
    1. approximately 178 other adults
    2. approximately \$747,600
2. Community Medical Equipment
  - A. Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) devices
  - B. Three devices to be placed at the Convenience Store, Band Office, and Gym
  - C. Approximate cost is \$2,000 per device, not to exceed \$6,000.
3. Community Emergency Response Facility
  - A. Expansion of gym building on north side to include a community emergency response, commodity storage and preparation kitchen and eating area, with a small exercise area.
  - B. Band Council will get competing bids.
  - C. Cost cannot exceed \$570,000.
4. Administrative expenses to implement plan, not to exceed \$50,000.
  - A. Direct mailing of applications and program information
  - B. Required Reporting
  - C. Accounting assistance
  - D. Distribution plan implementation

A rigorous accounting is required for the distribution of all SLFRF funds. Quarterly reports must be filed by the Band with the U.S. Treasury that detail all expenditures and demonstrate compliance with prescribed statutory requirements to ensure an equitable, transparent, and accountable recovery for all Americans.

#### INDIVIDUAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE APPLICATION PROCESS

The Council will begin accepting Band member applications for direct assistance on October 4, 2021. Adult Band members are encouraged to apply immediately. The application will be mailed to each adult Band member during the week of October 4, 2021. The application will also be

available on-line, at [www.shivwitsbandofpaiutes.org](http://www.shivwitsbandofpaiutes.org), and copies are available at the Band office. Applications and Distribution Plan information will also be emailed to Band members.

## DISTRIBUTION PLAN OVERVIEW

The Band Council approved the Distribution Plan by Resolution 2021-12. The Plan will be administered by the Council with assistance from the Band accountant and Echo Hawk & Olsen. Any questions about the Plan can be referred to Jill Haslam, paralegal at Echo Hawk & Olsen ([jill@echohawk.com](mailto:jill@echohawk.com)).

Plan documents include this Distribution Plan, and:

### **Resolution 2021-12**

The Resolution makes key findings and approves the Distribution Plan documents.

### **Financial Assistance Distribution Plan Summary / Letter to Band Members**

This document summarizes Plan information for Band members and gives step-by-step instructions about how to obtain the financial assistance.

### **Financial Assistance Application**

This document must be completed to apply for and obtain the cash assistance payment. The deadline for the application is December 31, 2021. It can be submitted in person on October 9, 2021, from 8am to 3pm at the Band Community Building if the adult member desires to pick up the payment in person, or it can be submitted by email to [jill@echohawk.com](mailto:jill@echohawk.com) or by mail to:

Echo Hawk & Olsen  
PO Box 910675  
1150 E Riverside Dr  
St George, UT 84791

### **Record of Financial Assistance Payment Approval**

The Band Council will use this document to make a record of approval decisions for each Band member adult who applies. It also constitutes a receipt of funds from the Band member and affirmation that the funds will be used for SLFRF objectives.

The Distribution Plan documents are attached as Exhibits.