



## Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe

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**2020-RES-057**

### **APPROVAL OF MASHPEE WAMPANOAG TRIBAL MEMBER COVID-19 YOUTH MEMBER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM - GENERAL WELFARE BENEFIT PROGRAM PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe (the “Tribe”) is a federally-recognized Indian Tribe with a duly-enacted Constitution; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council (the “Tribal Council”), the governing body of the Tribe, deems it essential, and is empowered, under Article VI, § 2.A. of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Constitution to promote and protect the health and general welfare of the members of the Tribe; and

**WHEREAS**, Article VI, § 2.C of the Constitution empowers the Tribal Council to establish procedures for the conduct of all Tribal government business operations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe recognizes the importance of being well prepared for any emergency which may face the Tribe and for partnering with other tribal, local, county, state, and federal entities when circumstances require a coordinated response; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tribal Council recognizes the threat that the disease caused by the 2019 novel Coronavirus is a contagious, and at times fatal, respiratory disease;



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**WHEREAS**, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization designated the 2019 novel Coronavirus outbreak as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern;

**WHEREAS**, on January 31, 2020, United States Health and Human Services Secretary Alex M. Azar II declared a public health emergency for the entire United States to aid the nation's healthcare community in responding to the 2019 novel Coronavirus ("COVID-19");

**WHEREAS**, as of July 8, 2020, there are 110,338 positive cases of COVID-19 in the Commonwealth and 13 of which are members of the Tribe; and

**WHEREAS**, both travel-related cases and community contact transmission of COVID-19 have been detected in the Commonwealth and such transmission is expected to continue;

**WHEREAS**, the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19 and the effects of its extreme risk of person-to-person transmission throughout the United States and the Commonwealth significantly affect the life and health of our people, as well as the economy, and is a disaster that impacts the health, security, and safety of the public;

**WHEREAS**, on March, 13<sup>th</sup> 2020, President Trump declared a nationwide emergency pursuant to Sec. 501(b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121-5207 (the "Stafford Act").

**WHEREAS**, on March 16, 2020, Tribal Council took additional steps to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 to protect the health and welfare of the people of the Tribe by declaring a STATE OF EMERGENCY;

**WHEREAS**, Congress has allocated funds to assist Tribes under Section 601(d) of the Social Security Act, as added by section 5001 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act ("CARES Act") established to provide funding to address unforeseen financial needs and risks created by the COVID-19 public health emergency.; and



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**WHEREAS**, Tribal Council desires to allocate funds from the CARES Act to address the continuing significant social and economic impacts suffered by Tribal citizens particularly those 17 years and younger and implement the “Tribal Member COVID-19 Youth Member Assistance Program” as a “General Welfare Benefit Program Plan” (the “Program”); and

**WHEREAS**, on July 8, 2020, Tribal Council adopted the Program with the intent to provide Tribal families emergency financial assistance to assist them with the economic hardship and impacts caused by COVID-19;

**WHEREAS**, Tribal Council desires to adopt an additional program to address the needs of Tribal citizens 17 years and younger to be known as “Tribal Member COVID-19 Youth Assistance Program” (“Youth Assistance”) in order to provide Tribal citizens 17 and younger whose families have been impacted by the loss of income due or suffering from other economic hardship caused COVID-19 and this STATE OF EMERGENCY;

**WHEREAS**, the Youth Assistance is intended to provide additional emergency economic relief to Tribal citizens impacted during the COVID-19 pandemic and this STATE OF EMERGENCY to support individuals and families in dire need of financial support for costs of living, food, housing, utilities, medical and other anticipated and unanticipated needs during this period of pandemic; and

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Tribal Council hereby approves the General Welfare Benefit Program Plan in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit A.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Tribal Council desires to approve and authorize the Chairman of the Tribal Council, or Tribal Council Chairman designee, to take all necessary action to ensure the implementation of the Tribal Member COVID-19 Youth Assistance Program, General Welfare Program Plan,

All resolutions or parts of resolutions inconsistent with this resolution are repealed. This resolution is effective immediately and shall continue in effect during the entire Grant period from the date