



## **Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe**

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**2020-RES-059**

**RATIFICATION OF APPROVAL  
OF MASHPEE WAMPANOAG  
TRIBAL MEMBER COVID-19 EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE  
PROGRAM AND GENERAL WELFARE  
BENEFIT PROGRAM PLAN ADDENDUM #1 –ASSISTANCE #2**

**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;

**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



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**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

**WHEREAS**, Tribal Council desires to allocate funds from the CARES Act to address the significant social and economic impacts suffered by Tribal citizens and implement a "Tribal Member COVID-19 Emergency 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 members emergency financial assistance to assist them with the economic hardship and impacts caused by COVID-19;

**WHEREAS**, on October 26, 2020, the Tribal Council adopted 2020-RES-055 approving a second program to supplement the prior approved emergency assistance to be known as "Tribal Member COVID-19 Emergency Assistance Program Addendum #1" ("Assistance #2) in order to provide adult Tribal members over the age of 18 additional funding in the amount of \$1,100 for economic hardship and impacts caused by COVID-19 and this STATE OF EMERGENCY;

**WHEREAS**, Assistance #2 is intended to provide additional emergency economic relief to Tribal citizens 18 and older 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 ‘



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**WHEREAS**, Tribal Council would like to ratify and reapprove the General Welfare Benefit Program Plan attached hereto as Exhibit A and known as "Tribal Member COVID-19 Emergency Assistance Program Addendum #1"; and

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

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Tribal Council desires to ratify and authorize the Chairman of the Tribal Council, or Tribal Council designee, to take all necessary action to ensure the implementation of the General Welfare Program Plan, Addendum #1;

All resolutions or parts of resolutions inconsistent with this resolution are repealed. This resolution is effective immediately and shall continue in effect pursuant to the authority vested in the Tribal Council pursuant to Article VI, §§ 2.A. and D of the Constitution of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe.

### CERTIFICATION

We, the undersigned Chairperson and Secretary of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council, do hereby certify that the Tribal Council is composed of 13 members of whom 9, constituting a quorum, were present at a special meeting thereof, duly and regularly called, noticed, convened, and held on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2020, and that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the affirmative vote of 7 members, with 0 opposing, and with 2 not voting.

DATED this 28<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Cedric Cromwell".

Cedric Cromwell, Chairman  
Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ann Marie Askew".

Ann Marie Askew, Secretary  
Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council