

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## Vienna CARES Fund grants to assist Town residents, employees of Town businesses

Vienna Town Council has approved an appropriation of up to \$105,000 in CARES Act funding for a grant program that will provide assistance with housing and utility payments for eligible Town residents and employees at Town of Vienna businesses who are dealing with pandemic-related financial hardships. The Vienna CARES Fund will be administered through Fairfax County.

"As the health crisis continues to linger, some families are finding it increasingly difficult to hold on financially," says Economic Development Manager Natalie Monkou. "The Town has been fortunate to have received CARES Act funding through Fairfax County that has helped us weather, to some degree, the financial impacts of the coronavirus pandemic, and we want to share what we've received with those most in need and provide assistance to those who live and work in Vienna."

Through the Vienna CARES Fund, \$100,000 in assistance will be provided via direct payments for housing expenses and gas and electric bills. This assistance does not need to be repaid by recipients.

Interested Town of Vienna residents and business employees must contact Fairfax County Coordinated Services Planning at **703-222-0880** to be screened for eligibility before being referred to the Committee for Helping Others for assistance. Recipients may not earn more than 60% of the area median income and must provide proof of income, mortgage/rental agreement, and utility billing. Employees at Town of Vienna businesses must live in Fairfax County and be employed by a Town of Vienna business with a valid business license.

For more information about this program, email natalie.monkou@viennava.gov.