FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CARES Individual Assistance checks issued quickly as possible – issuance dependent on available funds, multi-tiered approval

October 29, 2020 – Flagler County officials want to assure residents that CARES Individual Assistance Grant checks will be issued as quickly as possible.

“We had very high hopes when we started this process that things would move quickly, smoothly,” said Health and Human Services Director Joyce Bishop. “It’s moving slower than what we originally anticipated for two reasons: we have not received the full $5 million from the state that is earmarked for Individual Assistance; and, it is a complicated process with several layers of review for checks and balances.”

Many residents have been under the impression that when they were told they were “eligible” at their face-to-face interview that they were fully approved for the $1,000 grant. Applications – some of which are hundreds of pages – still require two more levels of review to confirm criteria has been met.

The entire process may take as long as three months.

Those who have NOT already applied are invited to do so now at http://www.flaglercounty.org/departments/social_services/CARES_Individual_Assistance.php?fbclid=IwAR24-3CwFB0h5f41gLd1p_T3yfufxCEmIw6LY626P2bCp48oc7g25j4uk. Flagler County is working to get individuals approved and in the queue for the full $5 million, even though the State of Florida has not yet provided all of the money earmarked for Individual Assistance.

“The goal is to have checks cut and sent as soon as we have money available,” Bishop said.

Residents are urged not to reapply. Those with problematic applications will be notified by email from CaresIAGrant@flaglercounty.org.

Submitting a repeat application slows the vetting process down for all, as checking for duplicate submittals – and multiple submissions from the same household – is part of the subsequent review to the face-to-face interview.
Applicants will be required to provide at the time of their appointment the following: a Florida drivers license or a state-issued photo identification, and ALL of the bills being claimed – not just the last bill with the total amount due. Paper copies of the bills are required.

Interview appointments continue to be held at 1000 Belle Terre Boulevard (not Parkway), Palm Coast, which is just south of the Tractor Supply Company store. Follow the signs to the entrance of the brick David I. Siegel Adult Day Care building.

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