



**County of Albemarle**  
County Executive Office

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August 4, 2021

Mr. Matthew Weaver  
Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development  
600 East Main Street, Suite 300  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

**RE: CDBG-CV project proposal – Food Security Program**

Dear Mr. Weaver:

Dear Mr. Weaver:

Please accept this letter as Albemarle County's expression of interest in applying for CDBG-CV grant funding in the amount of \$314,000. This amount includes \$284,000 in program funding plus \$30,000 in administrative fees. This funding is intended to support and expand programs currently underway for which additional funding is needed. The County proposes to use the funds for the following activities:

Activity	Intended Beneficiaries	Amount
Gift Cards for local grocers	120 LMI households 100 Migrant farmworkers	\$110,000
Fresh Farmacy	100 LMI and Homeless households	\$144,000
Prepared meals for residents recovering from COVID-19	150 LMI residents	\$30,000
Administration		\$30,000

All programs meet the national CDBG program objectives of activities benefiting low- and moderate-income families, and activities that meet an urgent community need. A more detailed summary of uses and program beneficiaries can be found in the accompanying attachment to this letter. Albemarle County will work with local nonprofit organizations, businesses, and Blue Ridge Health District to deliver these services, including the Sin Barreras, Central Virginia Farm Workers Initiative, Albemarle County Public Schools, Local Food Hub, Cultivate Charlottesville, Harvest Moon Catering, and Yellow Cab of Charlottesville.

We ask that DHCD grant this request to support the provision of fresh, nutritious, and culturally appropriate food choices to the County's LMI and Migrant worker populations. We appreciate the commitment of DHCD's

staff in assisting the County with improving the lives of our citizens. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Stacy Pethia via email at [spethia@albemarle.org](mailto:spethia@albemarle.org), or by telephone on 434-296-5832 ext. 3240.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey B. Richardson  
County Executive

cc: Stacy Pethia, Albemarle County

Date: May 18, 2021

Contact: Jen Fleisher, Blue Ridge Health District • jennifer.fleisher@vdh.virginia.gov

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## Request for Proposal from Dr. Stacy Pethia, Housing Grant Coordinator, Housing Principal Planner with Albemarle County Office of Housing and Community Development: Food Security for County Residents

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### **Summary:**

**Grant Applicant:** Albemarle County Office of Housing and Community Development

**Grantor:** US Department of Housing and Community Development as part of the annual Community Development Block Grant allocated to the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development

**Recipients:** Albemarle County Homeless and Migrant Families

### **Funding Origination and Allocation:**

The Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development receives an annual allocation from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development as part of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. This federal allocation is made available to non-entitlement communities, including Albemarle County, for projects that provide a community benefit such as support for economic and infrastructure development.

To help local governments respond to COVID-related needs, a portion of the annual allocation is now available to address **food security**.

The Albemarle County Office of Housing and Community Development assumes responsibility for the grant application, receiving the funding, and administering the grant allocation to nonprofit/for-profit organizations identified to deliver the services.

As grant sub-recipients, the following local non-profits Local Food Hub, Sin Barreras, and Central Virginia Legal Aid Society, will distribute the grant allocation to address food insecurity amongst the Homeless and Migrant populations within Albemarle County.

### **Programming Components Overview:**

The following components have been highlighted as areas to support during our community's COVID-19 Food Security response. Due to the nature of the pandemic and its economic, social, and health impacts on low-income residents in Albemarle County, the following response highlights multimodal strategies for supporting residents during this time. Specifically, we have created space to honor both dietary and cultural nutritional needs for families and farmworkers disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 economic hardship, as well as Albemarle residents and farmworkers that fall sick with coronavirus and need to isolate as they recover. A key component of the proposed approach presented below, is to foster resilience by connecting our community's COVID-19 Food Security response to economic recovery within our food and transportation sectors.

### **Supporting Families' Access to Food:**

- While all strategies consider the role transportation plays, ability to afford healthy, nutritious, culturally appropriate foods has placed an unprecedented burden on families during this time. Supporting residents in navigating these challenges has taken the form of two strategies:
  - **Gift Cards:** Distributed by Sin Barreras, one-time gifts cards for residents and farmworkers living at or below 80% area median income (AMI) will expand opportunities to exercise voice and choice over nutritional needs not intrinsic in food box distributions currently handled by the food bank. Households that are unable to purchase fresh meats and produce from stores will now be able to acquire goods their families need. In addition, partnerships with key Latinx and international food stores will provide options for residents to access culturally appropriate foods while supporting our local economy.
  - **Fresh Farmacy:** Managed by Local Food Hub, shares of fresh produce and farm fresh eggs will be distributed on a weekly or twice per month basis (dependent upon need and funding allocation) to County residents living at or below 80% AMI. Each bag contains 6-9 items such as one dozen eggs, collard greens, lettuce mix, sweet potatoes, cornmeal (grown and milled in VA), apples, tangerines (from a regional partner farm in GA), brussels sprouts, and carrots. Each bag is suitable for a family of four and includes educational materials about the food, storage and cooking tips, and recipes (in English and Spanish). The program has six years of participant data on food items that are enjoyed, and aims to increase exposure to and comfortability with consuming fresh produce. Bags are delivered to the place of residence by Yellow Cab of Charlottesville and distributed by Local Food Hub
- The third strategy meets the needs of Albemarle Residents and Farmworkers that need support to quarantine or isolate. Currently, the Blue Ridge Health District has expanded its programming to include approaches that enable our community to mitigate the spread and flatten the curve through the COVID19 Wrap Around Services.
  - **Prepared Meals:** PB&J has teamed up with Harvest Moon Catering to prepare and distribute food to COVID cases in the area. Providing healthy, ready-to-eat meals allows for community members who must isolate or quarantine without the extra financial and logistical burdens of securing food. Meals are provided, in coordination with other wrap around services, on a case-by-case basis to entire households with a COVID positive member(s). In addition to prepared meals, the Wrap Around Services program provides finances, hotels, PPE/sanitation supplies, medications as well as food boxes/produce.

**Distribution of Funding:**

<b>Name of Program</b>	<b>Gift Cards - \$120,000</b>	<b>Fresh Farmacy - \$150,000</b>	<b>Prepared Meals for Albemarle Residents Impacted by COVID19 - \$30,000</b>
<b>Details</b>	<p>\$500 one-time gift cards to 120 County recipients, (\$60,000) Gift cards to local Latinx grocers if available</p> <p>\$500 one-time gift cards for 100 farmworkers in Albemarle. (\$50,000) Restricted gift cards to Walmart</p> <p>\$10,000 Administrative assistance to Sin Barreras and Central Virginia Legal Aid Society</p>	<p>100 homes x \$40 Fresh Farmacy bag x 36 deliveries (twice per month for 18 months)</p> <p>(\$144,000)</p> <p>Delivery of fresh produce and eggs to current Fresh Farmacy recipients (70), 20 new families, and 10 families referred by the ACPS Homeless and/or Migrant Education Program.</p> <p>\$6,000 Administrative assistance to Local Food Hub</p>	<p>Prepared meals (\$10/meal) 2x a day, delivered for up to 10 days for any Albemarle resident impacted by COVID-19 that needs support to quarantine or isolate. (\$30,000 for 150 individuals)</p> <p>PB&amp;J for meals</p>
<b>Lead Agencies</b>	Sin Barreras (SB) and Central Virginia Legal Aid Society	Local Food Hub (LFH)	PB&J

<p>Fulfillment</p>	<p>ACPS Homeless and/or Migrant Education Programs provide families of ACPS students enrolled in the programs with information about how to access the assistance of food gift cards distributed by Sin Barreras.</p> <p>Sin Barreras is responsible for card distribution directly to families.</p> <p>ACPS Homeless and/or Migrant Education Programs do not supply Sin Barreras with student names or information.</p> <p>ACPS Homeless and/or Migrant Education Programs do not share personal information regarding parents/guardians with Sin Barreras unless authorized to do so by written parent/guardian permission.</p> <p>For grant reporting purposes, Sin Barreras provides general information, such as the number of children and adults served, while personal information about families and</p>	<p>ACPS Homeless and/or Migrant Education Programs provide families of ACPS students enrolled in the programs with information about how to access the assistance of food distribution by Local Food Hub.</p> <p>Local Food Hub is responsible for coordination of food delivery logistics and food distribution directly to families.</p> <p>ACPS Homeless and/or Migrant Education Programs do not supply Local Food Hub with student names or information.</p> <p>ACPS Homeless and/or Migrant Education Programs do not share personal information regarding parents/guardians with Local Food Hub unless authorized to do so by written parent/guardian permission.</p> <p>Local Food Hub and Yellow Cab partner provide food logistics and delivery.</p> <p>For grant reporting purposes, Local Food Hub provides general information, such as the number of children and adults served, while personal information about families and students remains secure and confidential.</p>	<p>Health Department receives COVID-19 positive case information and begins intake process for positive cases.</p> <p>Meals provided by Harvest Moon Catering</p> <p>Meals distributed to County residents through current COVID-19 Wrap Around Services channels via Blue Ridge Health District (BRHD) Medical Reserve Corps Volunteers and City Department of Human Services currently handling deliveries to COVID Cases.</p>
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	<p>students remains secure and confidential.</p> <p>Central Virginia Legal Aid Society processes requests, distributes cards, and provides general reporting information, such as number of recipients, while personal client information is kept secure and confidential.</p>		
<p>Reporting and Evaluation**</p> <p><i>**Client information is kept secure and confidential</i></p>	<p>Sin Barreras + Central Virginia Legal Aid Society Advocate</p>	<p>LFH + Advocate</p>	<p>PB&amp;J + BRHD + Advocate</p>