

— SOS —

## CHANGES TO CRITERIA FOR SEASON OF SHARING CONTRA COSTA COUNTY:

The following Season of Sharing criteria will be added to funding consideration.

### EXPANSION OF ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS – New eligibility

1. **Temporarily disabled** individuals may apply
2. **No residency requirement** for applicants living within the 9 SOS supported counties (Contra Costa, Alameda, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano, & Sonoma); must not have received SOS grant from those counties within past 5 years; must provide proof of residency within the 9 counties; for applicants coming in from outside of those counties must have 3 months residency within Contra Costa County.

### NEW DEPOSIT ASSISTANCE – New authorized reasons for moving

1. **Leaving the nest** – young adult with child/children leaving home; low income only
2. **Neighborhood safety** – expand current criteria from violent occurrence at place of residence, to neighborhood threats/crime reporting. Case-by-case determination
3. **Room rental** – open to everyone; must have separate lease with verified property owner who does not live in residence. Deposit & rent must be reasonable; deposit no more than twice rent. Room rental for family of 2-3 people only; no subleasing allowed

### NEW FURNITURE (CRITICAL FAMILY NEED) – Basic furniture requests opened to all

1. All clients can apply for **basic furniture** (mattress, bed frame, sm. dining table/chairs) with valid proof of need; restrictions to type of furniture apply (no sofas, head/footboards, nightstands, mirrors, vanity, dressers, armoires)

### NEW KINDS OF ASSISTANCE – Other emergency situations considered

1. **Unexpected rise in utilities** – Delinquent rent/mortgage payment **may** be considered in lieu of an outstanding utility bill for proven crisis if bill paid first; for critical cases may pay PGE directly
2. **Emergency car repairs** - Delinquent rent payment **may** be considered for those who need car for work, school, childcare, or medical in lieu of outstanding car repair for proven crisis and if bill is paid first; value of repair cannot exceed value of car; no maintenance services; no diagnostics; no car repairs for cars used as dwellings; case-by-case determinations

### NEW DELINQUENT RENT/MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE – **COVID-19 – response through May 31, 2020**

1. No future income proof needed for those who lost their source of income
2. Rent/mortgage does NOT have to be delinquent (can pay next month's rent)





Larry Hopwood &lt;2w1retired@gmail.com&gt;

**COVID-19**

1 message

**Alvaro Florez** <aflorez@ehsd.cccounty.us>

Mon, Mar 16, 2020 at 8:32 AM

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**Hello All**

**The executive Director of Season of Sharing sent this new criteria to help our community that is been hit by COVID-19.**

**I hope this new measures can help our clients.**

**From:** Zev Lowe <Zev@seasonofsharing.org>**Sent:** Friday, March 13, 2020 4:32 PM**To:** Kevin Swanson <Kevin@seasonofsharing.org>**Subject:** Chronicle Season of Sharing Fund COVID-19 Response

Dear County Coordinators and Fiscal Agents,

Please share this information with your partner agencies.

In the wake of the growing concern over COVID-19 (known conversationally as *coronavirus*), Chronicle Season of Sharing Fund wants to support the implementation of preventative measures while minimizing misinformation. As this is an emerging situation, Chronicle Season of Sharing Fund will continue to monitor the information released by the California Department of Public Health and the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

COVID-19 and Chronicle Season of Sharing Fund Assistance

Due to the need to limit social engagement to slow down and reduce the spread of COVID-19, some of our county partners have informed us of a spike in applications for assistance. Musicians face canceled gigs. Office support staff are facing a reduction in hours as more knowledge workers move to teleworking. Restaurant workers are not making the tips they need to make ends meet. Theater performances are being canceled and actors, stagehands and crew are impacted.

Between now and May 31, 2020, we are modifying our application requirements for those affected by COVID-19 as follows:

1. Rent/mortgage does not have to be delinquent -- eligible applicants who have been affected directly or indirectly by COVID-19 can apply for Season of Sharing Fund assistance with rent/mortgage for the months going forward.
2. Requirement for sustainability going forward is waived for those who lost their source of income due to COVID-19 - eligible applicants who lost their job, lost work or lost their source of income can be eligible for Season of Sharing Fund assistance.

Please note that the demographics we serve have not changed.

Your 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter allocations were mailed to the fiscal agents today. We would also like to encourage you, if possible, to facilitate the processing of applications using digital copies of any required documentation, to reduce the need for any more in-person engagement than necessary. As always, we encourage you to also make use of any and all available sources of funding, including but not limited to any assistance that may come from federal or state sources, or from private philanthropy.

While these are not official guidelines from the Chronicle Season of Sharing Fund, I would like to share some scenarios that you may find helpful from Alameda County, as they came up with their COVID-19 response.



Scenario	Suggested Documentation
Applicant is unable to go to work, because the child's school/daycare is closed and alternate daycare arrangements are not available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Official notification from school or daycare of closure (including duration); AND</li><li>• Proof of child's enrollment at that school/center (report card, tuition bill, etc.); AND</li><li>• Verification from employer regarding duration of unpaid leave</li></ul>
Applicant must self-quarantine and is not permitted to work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Letter from employer verifying duration of unpaid absence of work AND</li><li>• Medical verification of diagnosis (if obtainable)</li></ul>
Applicant's place of employment is closed temporarily or permanently	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Verification from employer regarding closure OR</li><li>• If employer is no longer reachable, proof of EDD unemployment benefit filing</li></ul>
Applicant's work hours or assignments are reduced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Copies of most recent month's paystubs and newly submitted timesheets to reflect reduced hours AND / OR</li><li>• Letter of verification from employer</li></ul>

On a final note, for the next 2 weeks, Kevin and I will be working remotely, but we will be available as usual if you have any questions.

Kind regards,

Zev

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Chronicle Season of Sharing Fund

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## Volunteer & Emergency Services

Contra Costa County

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