

429 East Grandview Boulevard Erie, Pennsylvania 16504 (814) 824-1250 CCIncErie.org info@CCIncErie.org

Dear Monsignor/Father,

As you know, a COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund was established by Catholic Charities in March of 2020 to provide pastors with a temporary means of access to financial resources to assist people in need when the pandemic struck.

## This letter serves to provide important updates about the fund and its future use.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, Catholic Charities has provided help in all nine deaneries of our diocese. To date, all of these funds have been spent. However, for those pandemic-related emergency needs not covered by the government or other social service entities, Catholic Charities is using its own limited reserve funds to assist with those requests.

It is our desire to be good stewards of the funds entrusted to us; we do not wish to duplicate services or funding streams. All submitted requests must be pre-approved by Catholic Charities before assistance is given to the individual or family in need. **Requests for reimbursements cannot be fulfilled.** 

As you may recall, the original parameters for parish requests included financial assistance for the following:

- Parish food pantry replenishment
- Individual or family groceries
- Medications

- Non-food essentials (limited to personal hygiene items and cleaning supplies)
- Emergency transportation needs

We ask that you stay within these same parameters. Other needs, such as utility bills, rental assistance, etc., are to be directed to other organizations or agencies in your area who have qualified staff to assist neighbors in need.

Parish requests will continue to be made by accessing the link found on the ErieRCD.org website under MyDioErie in the section for Clergy (login required). As a reminder, the pastor or parish administrator must approve any request before it is submitted. Questions can be directed via email to: <u>CCReliefFund@erieRCD.org</u>

Yours in Charity,

Ann M. Badach Executive Director Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Erie