

## RESOLUTION NO. 05-31-22-35

### **A RESOLUTION SETTING ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AS WELL AS BENEFIT LEVELS FOR THE GENERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, it is in the best interest of the residents of Chickasaw County, Iowa, to assist those persons of limited means to provide for themselves and their households; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Iowa Code Chapter 252, the Chickasaw County, Iowa, Board of Supervisors is empowered to provide for the poor and needy of Chickasaw County, Iowa; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with the Ordinance establishing a General Assistance Program in Chickasaw County, Iowa, the Board of Supervisors is required to set by Resolution financial limitations on personal income, personal resources, and property ownership and other eligibility requirements for the General Assistance Program as well as set the amounts and duration of General Assistance to be provided to eligible persons in Chickasaw County, Iowa;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that pursuant to Iowa Code Chapter 252 and for the purpose of implementing the Ordinance establishing a General Assistance Program in Chickasaw County, Iowa, the Board of Supervisors sets the following financial limitations on personal income, personal resources, and property ownership and other eligibility requirements for the General Assistance Program as well as sets the amounts and duration of General Assistance to be provided to eligible persons in Chickasaw County, Iowa, as follows:

**General Eligibility** – To be eligible for General Assistance, an applicant must meet the following requirements:

1. Submit a completed General Assistance Application;
2. Be a US citizen or have documented legal status;
3. Be a resident of Chickasaw County, Iowa;
4. Be at least 18 years of age, or a married or emancipated minor; and
5. Have a household income at or below 100% of the current Federal Poverty Guidelines (the income used for consideration is the gross income for the previous 30 days from the date of the General Assistance Application for all household members age 19 or older; a recent filed federal tax return will also be accepted).

**Eligibility of Poor Persons** – To be eligible for assistance as a poor person, an applicant must meet the General Eligibility Requirements in addition to the following:

1. Meet the definition of a “poor person”:
  - a. Unable to work due to a mental or physical disability (may be required to provide written verification from a professional health care provider) and
  - b. Has no property, exempt or otherwise; and

2. Be ineligible for, or be in immediate need and awaiting approval and receipt of, assistance under programs provided by state and federal law, or have actual needs that cannot be fully met by the assistance furnished under those programs.

**Eligibility of Needy Persons** – To be eligible for assistance as a needy person, an applicant must meet the General Eligibility Requirements in addition to the following:

1. Be a resident of Chickasaw County, Iowa, or transient in the County for less than three days who because of circumstances which are not attributable to that person needs immediate temporary assistance;
2. No liquid assets of the household from which to pay the needed General Assistance;
3. Household vehicle(s) valued at or below \$3,000;
4. Assessed value of primary homestead at or below \$40,000 (all other owned property must be included in the net worth calculation);
5. Household net worth is at or below \$2,000 for household of one and \$4,000 for household of two or more; and
6. Unable to obtain relief from any other source; must apply for and follow through with all other assistance programs prior to completing a General Assistance Application.

Full time students are not eligible for General Assistance unless they are under age 19 and in a program leading to a high school diploma.

**Level of Benefits** – The maximum level of benefits to be provided for each item of General Assistance for each person or that person's household shall be:

1. Food – referrals will be made to the food pantry.
2. Rent – the reasonable rental value not to exceed \$300 per month. An eviction notice is required and rent will only be paid to the landlord, who may not be a relative. Rent deposits do not qualify for General Assistance.
3. Mortgage Payments – assistance for this will be made only to stop foreclosure – usually current month's interest due and not to exceed \$300 per month.
4. Clothing – referrals with vouchers will be made to thrift stores. The value will be reasonable based upon the need.
5. Utilities (Heat, Electric and Water) – utility payments may also include fuel for the purpose of heating. Assistance will not exceed \$300 or the amount of the past due bill, whichever is less. A disconnect or shut-off notice is required. Assistance will also be allowed for re-connect charges.
6. Medical, Dental & Prescriptions – no co-pays will be allowed.
  - a. Medical – a referral will be provided to nearest urgent or emergency care.
  - b. Eyeglass repair or replacement – the assistance will not exceed \$200.
  - c. Dental emergency filling or extraction – the assistance will not exceed \$200.
  - d. Prescription for 1-3 month supply – the assistance will not exceed \$200. (prescription must be documented in writing by professional health care provider as necessary)

7. Transportation – public transit ride rate assistance for medical or emergency or \$50 gas card also for medical or emergency situation.
8. Burials – applications for assistance should be made prior to formalizing any arrangements with the funeral home. Death benefits, life insurance policies, prepaid burial agreements, or other monies from private sources such as savings, sale of property, bonds, and general income must be applied to the burial costs prior to General Assistance. Applicants will be determined eligible for assistance if their representative affirms that they meet the conditions outlined in the County Burial Affidavit.
  - a. Funeral services expenses will be assisted up to \$2,000.
  - b. Cremation services expenses will be assisted up to \$1,000.
  - c. Cemetery expenses (including burial plot purchase and grave open/close) will be assisted up to \$500.

With the exception of burial expenses, the maximum payment for General Assistance shall not exceed \$500 within a 12-month period.

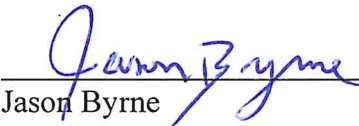
**HEREBY RESOLVED** by the Chickasaw County, Iowa, Board of Supervisors on May 31, 2022.



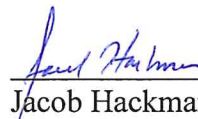
Matthew Kuhn, Chair



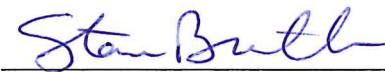
Tim Zoll, Vice Chair



Jason Byrne



Jacob Hackman



Steven Breitbach



Attest: Stephanie Mashek, Auditor