



CARES Act Funds Distribution

A WORD FROM SECRETARY-TREASURER SARAH S. CHANNING



Today I have some good news to share. Last week, the Seneca-Cayuga Nation received \$2.2 million from the Federal Government. This money is our portion of the eight billion dollars allocated to tribal governments by the CARES Act and is called the Coronavirus Relief Fund. There were only three days to apply for this money. Like all money from the CARES Act, there is a complex set of guidelines for how it can be used. Fortunately, though our work with Finely & Cook, we have improved our accounting systems and financial reporting structure. Because of this, we were able to complete the application in two days, and we can move quickly to comply with all Federal guidelines and distribute the funds immediately.

On Friday, the Business Committee approved using the majority of our Corona Virus Relief Fund distribution of federal aid to pay \$2,000 to every Elder in the Seneca-Cayuga Nation. You will receive this money if you are 55 or older as of May 15th, 2020. As a Nation, we are committed to caring for Seneca-Cayuga Elders, and COVID-19 has impacted older people more than many other groups. We are thankful for the opportunity to support them in a difficult circumstance.

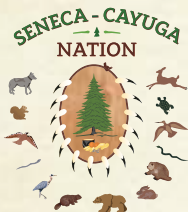
You do not have to apply for this money, and we will start mailing checks this week. If you are an Elder and have not updated your contact information with the Enrollment Office recently, please do so immediately by calling Leslie McCoy at 918-787-5452 ext. 6027. Checks will be mailed to the address on file. Please make sure we have the correct contact information so you get your payment as soon as possible.

There are 1098 Elders on the rolls, so this disbursement will use \$2,196,000 of the \$2.2 million Coronavirus Relief Fund. The money must be spent or we will have to return it, so we are working on plans for what to do with the remainder and will keep everyone up to date. There are other funds available through the CARES Act and we continue to apply for every dollar that we qualify for. In the meantime, we are thankful we can honor our Elders by supporting them when they need it most.

Finally, we request that you please share this letter with anyone you know who is qualified, especially if they have moved recently. We need your help making sure we have correct addresses for every Elder.

Thank you for celebrating this good news with me during a very difficult time, and please stay safe and healthy.

Sarah S. Channing
Secretary-Treasurer



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