



**Proposition 202 Tribal Gaming
Application Sponsorship/Support Form
Requesting Pinal County serve as the Fiscal Agent/Pass Through Entity**

Name of the Tribal Community: Tohono O'odham Nation

Due date of the application to the Tribal community: June 7, 2024

The following information will be used by Pinal County to 1) send the resolution and grant documents for the applicant to submit to the Tribal community, 2) send the funds, if awarded.

Name of the Non-profit: Hope International Food Pantry, Inc.

Contact person/title: Audrey Warren, President

Email address: mswift@swiftphilanthropy.com (for resolution)

audri42@gmail.com (for funding)

Address: 1280 N. Arizona Blvd., Coolidge, AZ 85126

Project name: Hope International Food Pantry Supplemental Nutrition Program

Amount being requested: \$35,000

Project summary: To serve vulnerable, food insecure residents of Pinal County with supplemental nutritious food as part of the TEFAP program.

Beneficiaries: Low to moderate income Pinal County residents

Supervisor District: Mike Goodman

The undersigns hereby certifies they have read and comply with the responsibilities set forth in the PINAL COUNTY TRIBAL GAMING GRANT PROGRAM Request for fiscal agent/pass through support documentation.



Director name and signature

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
P. O. BOX 2508
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date:

MAY 08 2020

HOPE INTERNATIONAL FOOD PANTRY
C/O AUDREY WARREN
1280 N ARIZONA BLVD
COOLIDGE, AZ 85128-0000

Employer Identification Number:
84-2471262

DLN:

26053500001960

Contact Person:

CUSTOMER SERVICE

ID# 31954

Contact Telephone Number:

(877) 829-5500

Accounting Period Ending:

December 31

Public Charity Status:

170(b)(1)(A)(vi)

Form 990/990-EZ/990-N Required:

Yes

Effective Date of Exemption:

March 5, 2020

Contribution Deductibility:

Yes

Addendum Applies:

No

Dear Applicant:

We're pleased to tell you we determined you're exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(3). Donors can deduct contributions they make to you under IRC Section 170. You're also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under Section 2055, 2106, or 2522. This letter could help resolve questions on your exempt status. Please keep it for your records.

Organizations exempt under IRC Section 501(c)(3) are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. We determined you're a public charity under the IRC Section listed at the top of this letter.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that you're required to file Form 990/990-EZ/990-N, our records show you're required to file an annual information return (Form 990 or Form 990-EZ) or electronic notice (Form 990-N, the e-Postcard). If you don't file a required return or notice for three consecutive years, your exempt status will be automatically revoked.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that an addendum applies, the enclosed addendum is an integral part of this letter.

For important information about your responsibilities as a tax-exempt organization, go to www.irs.gov/charities. Enter "4221-PC" in the search bar to view Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, which describes your recordkeeping, reporting, and disclosure requirements.

HOPE INTERNATIONAL FOOD PANTRY

Sincerely,

Stephen A. Martin

Director, Exempt Organizations
Rulings and Agreements

Hope International Food Pantry Tohono O'odham Nation Revenue Sharing Grant Proposal

A.) Explain the perceived need and explain how the proposal will address that need.

Even within our own communities, there exists a silent struggle that often goes unnoticed: the battle against hunger. Pinal County, like many other areas in Arizona, bears the weight of this burden. Shockingly, in certain corners of our county, over half of the residents grapple with food insecurity daily. Hunger doesn't adhere to boundaries or biases; it doesn't care about age, race, or gender. It is a universal adversary that lurks in the shadows of our neighborhoods, perhaps even on your very street. These are the faces of our neighbors, the children sitting beside ours in school classrooms, silently wrestling with empty stomachs and uncertain futures.

Households experiencing food insecurity often grapple with constrained financial resources, forcing them to make difficult decisions regarding the allocation of funds. These choices often entail prioritizing food purchases over other essential needs. A significant proportion of food-insecure households find themselves having to weigh the necessity of purchasing food against meeting expenses such as utilities (69%), transportation (67%), medical care (66%), or housing (57%) at various points throughout the year. Remarkably, approximately one-third of these households confront these tradeoffs on a monthly basis. While educational expenses are less frequently compromised, with only 31 percent of households reporting such decisions, it's worth noting that this may be attributed to the absence of students in all households. Nonetheless, the fact that a substantial portion of households must still choose between food and education underscores the pervasive nature of the challenges faced by food-insecure households.

Federal nutrition assistance programs, including Food Stamp benefits, income deductions, and other eligibility criteria, have failed to keep abreast of inflationary trends, thereby inadequately addressing the escalating costs associated with household essentials such as gasoline, electricity, food, and medicine. It is evident that families require supplementary support to flourish in such challenging circumstances. Thankfully, through the collaborative efforts of charitable food assistance programs like ours and federal nutrition assistance initiatives, a comprehensive nutritional safety net is woven to provide crucial support to households facing adversity.

The COVID-19 pandemic has ushered in a profound shift in our societal landscape, particularly in terms of economic disparities. Prior to the pandemic, statistics painted a troubling picture: while the monthly poverty rate for white individuals stood at 11 percent, it soared to nearly 24 percent for Black and Hispanic individuals. However, the true gravity of the situation unfolded as the pandemic unfolded. By August, the estimated poverty rate for white individuals had crept up marginally to 12.3 percent. In stark contrast, the figures for Black and Hispanic individuals surged to 26.3 percent and 26.9 percent, respectively, during the same period. These numbers underscore a distressing reality: the pandemic has exacerbated existing inequalities, further widening the poverty gap between white individuals and their Black and Hispanic counterparts. As we navigate these unprecedented challenges, it is imperative that we rally together to address these disparities and provide vital support to those most in need.

Recognizing this need, our primary initiative is an emergency food relief program. Unfortunately, we are living in a time where it is becoming harder for families to make ends meet and to put adequate, healthy food on the table. Hunger and food insecurity are very real concerns for many Americans, and Pinal County is no exception. Our food outreach program equips at-risk, struggling individuals and families, immigrants, the unemployed, and others facing personal or financial crises with fundamental resources in order to position

Hope International Food Pantry Tohono O'odham Nation Revenue Sharing Grant Proposal

them to be successful, self-sufficient, productive members of their communities. Our food pantry thus distributes emergency food boxes every 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month from 8:00-10:00 a.m. These boxes contain a variety of fresh, frozen, and nonperishable food items, seeking to provide each recipient with the necessary elements of a well-balanced diet.

Hope International Food Pantry is a participant in The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP). We also work closely with local churches, other local pantries, and other not-for-profit agencies to provide for the needs of our communities. Some of our partners currently include Arizona Midwest Food Bank and United Food Bank. We purchase food in bulk from wholesalers to supplement donations received from various individuals, churches, businesses, and community groups. In addition, we aim to serve local residents with other social services, such as emergency cash assistance, clothing aid, and assistance with shelter and other immediate needs.

In addition to our supplemental food aid program, HIFP also meets other basic needs in the community through the delivery of a comprehensive suite of social assistance. This includes the distribution of school supplies to families in need, entrepreneurial opportunities for women, holiday assistance, and the provision of vouchers for temporary shelter for the homeless. As a result of our commitment to the community, Hope International Food Pantry was recognized by the Coolidge Chamber of Commerce as its 2021 Nonprofit of the Year.

Our overarching goal is to alleviate hunger in our community. In 2024, our organization aspires to:

- Encourage quality nutrition, and thus enhance health and wellbeing, through the distribution of nutritious food to those in need.
- Provide continuous socioeconomic support in the Pinal County area through comprehensive community support initiatives.
- Build long-standing partnerships with other organizations in the community that share the same vision.

Specifically, our quarterly and annual outcome objectives include:

1. Increase food distribution participation to serve 1,100 unique families in 2024.
2. Distribute at least 1,250 emergency food boxes quarterly and 5,000 annually during 2024.
3. Provide other charitable aid, such as cash, clothing, and medical assistance to 50 individuals annually during 2024.

As a result of the growing demand for stop-gap food assistance in Pinal County, our organization's resources have become strained. In order to continue to maintain adequate food inventory to meet the increasing demand, and to successfully serve these families with vital basic aid, it is essential that we invest in program expansion. Specifically, we face a need to obtain a larger quantity of monthly food inventory in order to serve a much larger client base, as well as additional refrigeration and storage options.

B.) Describe the population who will benefit from the proposal, if approved.

Our stop-gap food assistance will benefit low-income, food-insecure individuals in Pinal County- a segment of the community facing significant challenges related to accessing an adequate and nutritious food supply. These individuals typically reside within households with limited financial resources, where the ability to consistently afford or access nutritious food is uncertain or insufficient.

**Hope International Food Pantry
Tohono O'odham Nation Revenue Sharing Grant Proposal**

Within Pinal County, factors contributing to food insecurity among this population may include economic disparities, limited employment opportunities, high costs of living relative to income levels, and barriers to accessing nutritious food options such as transportation limitations or geographic isolation. Additionally, certain demographic groups within this population, such as children, the elderly, individuals with disabilities, and minority communities, may experience disproportionate levels of food insecurity due to systemic inequalities and social determinants of health.

C.) Budget

See budget enclosed.

D.) List any other funding requests that have been made for this or substantially related proposals and provide the status of those requests.

We have applied for funds from the Gila River Indian Community and that request is currently pending.

E.) Indicate whether the entity has previously received a 12% distribution from the Tohono O'odham Nation or other Arizona tribes, along with the amount and date awarded.

Hope International Food Pantry received a 12% distribution from Tohono O'odham Nation in 2023 for \$25,000.

F.) Identify a designated contact person and alternate contact person for follow-up.

Pastor Audrey Warren, President
1280 N. Arizona Boulevard, Coolidge, AZ 85128
520-233-6699 - audri42@gmail.com

G.) Indicate which priority area (from the above list) the proposal falls under.

Tohono O'odham Nation guidelines give priority to projects promoting healthcare, and adequate nutrition is a critical part of health and wellness. We recognize that good nutrition is essential for keeping people of all ages healthy across the lifespan. Malnutrition detrimentally impacts both the physiological and cognitive capacities of individuals, thereby impeding productivity levels and rendering both individuals and their respective nations more vulnerable to poverty. A symbiotic relationship exists between malnutrition and poverty, engendering a pernicious cycle wherein each exacerbates the other. Malnutrition engenders conditions conducive to poverty by diminishing the economic potential of the populace, while conversely, poverty reinforces malnutrition by heightening the risk of food insecurity.

Conversely, adopting a nutritious diet among adults not only extends lifespan but also reduces the likelihood of obesity, cardiovascular ailments, type 2 diabetes, and specific cancers. Embracing healthy eating habits facilitates the management of chronic illnesses and averts associated complications, while also bolstering the immune system in individuals without pre-existing health issues.

H.) Include the name of the city, town, or county an agreement will be made with if funds are granted.

We will enter into an agreement with Pinal County to act as our fiscal agent. Heather Patel, Grants Administrator, P.O. Box 1348, Florence, Arizona 85132, 520-866-6422, heather.patel@pinal.gov

Project Budget

Budget Period: 2024

| Proposed Budget Expense (list each budget item) | Amount requested from Tohono O'odham | Amount requested or secured from other sources | In Kind contributions | Total Budget |
|--|--|---|--------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Building Lease | \$0 | \$38,400 | \$0 | \$38,400 |
| 2. Storage Unit | \$0 | \$4,560 | \$0 | \$4,560 |
| 3. Utilities | \$0 | \$17,040 | \$0 | \$17,040 |
| 4. Food Distributions | \$25,000 | \$20,000 | \$150,000 | \$195,000 |
| 5. Shelter Aid to Individuals | \$0 | \$3,600 | \$0 | \$3,600 |
| 6. Other Aid for Basic Needs | \$0 | \$2,400 | \$0 | \$2,400 |
| 7. Back to School Supply Event | \$0 | \$1,200 | \$0 | \$1,200 |
| 8. Women's Dress for Success Event | \$0 | \$1,500 | \$0 | \$1,500 |
| 9. Small Business Expo | \$0 | \$1,000 | \$0 | \$1,000 |
| 10. Thanksgiving Baskets | \$0 | \$2,500 | \$0 | \$2,500 |
| 11. Christmas Dinners/Holiday Gifts | \$0 | \$4,000 | \$0 | \$4,000 |
| 12. Nonemployee Compensation | \$0 | \$8,000 | \$0 | \$8,000 |
| 13. Storage/Packaging/Supplies | \$5,000 | \$15,000 | \$0 | \$20,000 |
| 14. Freezers/Refrigeration | \$5,000 | \$4,600 | \$0 | \$9,600 |
| 15. Cooler Van | \$0 | \$18,000 | \$0 | \$18,000 |
| Total Budget | \$35,000 | \$141,800 | \$150,000 | \$326,800 |