



Office of the Secretary

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September 23, 2020

Arkansas CARES Act Steering Committee
1509 West Seventh Street, Suite 401
Little Rock, AR 72203-3278

Dear Arkansas CARES Act Steering Committee:

Enclosed is a proposal for consideration by the Arkansas CARES Act Steering Committee requesting CARES Act funding for COVID-19 expenses necessary and in response to the pandemic. We are requesting reimbursement of the expenses for providing COVID-19 testing, establishment of temporary housing and quarantine facilities, emergency food related costs, and information technology expenses for video court hearings and virtual residential treatment. In efforts to allow for in-person visitation, the Department is requesting approval for funding for equipment to construct barriers and for PPE to be utilized by visitors and employees. This request for approval is for approximately \$1,033,000, for the following:

- Reimbursement for COVID-19 Testing \$500,000
- Food Related Expenses (Styrofoam, plastic, paper, utensils) \$100,000. [The Department requests that the Committee consider disposable utensils as a preapproved item for purchases when made in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.]
- Barrier Equipment Expenses for In-Person Visitation \$90,000
- eOMIS Contract Labor Costs \$40,000 estimate
- Air conditioning unit to quarantine individuals in a program building (\$8,000 for a 15 Ton HVAC)
- Information Technology expenses to allow for video court hearings (\$95,000) for ADC
- Information Technology expenses to allow for residential treatment in residential centers, including hardware and video teleconferencing equipment, estimate (\$200,000) for ACC

We continue to follow guidelines from the Center of Disease Control & Prevention as well as specific guidance from the Arkansas Health Department as we respond to COVID-19. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Solomon Graves', is written over a horizontal line.

Solomon Graves, Secretary

<http://DOC.Arkansas.gov>



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Dear Arkansas CARES Act Steering Committee:

On March 11, 2020, Governor Asa Hutchinson declared a public health emergency in the State of Arkansas due to the presence of COVID-19 in our state. On May 28, 2020, the Department of Corrections (DOC) requested and subsequently received approval by the Arkansas CARES Act Steering Committee for use of funding made available under Section 601 of PL 116-136, the "Coronavirus Relief Fund" of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) to extend the previously approved Hospital and Health Care Facility Care Continuity Incentive (CCI) payments to correctional facility workers whose services are, or have been, substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency. Payments were extended to 572 security and non-security personnel assigned to three (3) correctional facilities (Cummins Unit, Randall L. Williams, and Central Arkansas Community Correction Center) who regularly came into physical contact with the inmate or resident population.

This letter is a request for approval to extend the \$500 Hospital and Health Care Facility Care Continuity Incentive payments (CCI) to the security and non-security personnel who meet the same requirements but were not included in the original request. The Estimated Cost at \$500 per employee who worked a minimum of forty (40) hours during the pandemic outbreak totals \$2,016,000.

As of September 11, 2020, 16,790 inmates and residents housed within the (17) ADC facilities and (6) ACC residential centers have been tested. A total of 5,812 individuals committed to the Divisions of Correction and Community Correction have tested positive for COVID-19.

Thank you for consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Solomon Graves'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Solomon Graves, Secretary