BEAR RIVER BAND of the ROHNERVILLE RANCHERIA

266 KEISNER RD LOLETA, CA 95551-9707 PHONE 707-733-1900 FAX 707-875-7229



FOOD SECURITY AND BASIC NEEDS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

I. MISSION STATEMENT:

The Bear River Band understands that food insecurity and utility assistance is a common need for tribal members and in an effort to support tribal families, tribal members have access to this funding to ensure basic household needs are met.

II. GOALS:

The assistance program is geared toward ensuring that tribal members have access to food and basic needs necessary to live a healthy life.

III. DEFINITIONS

Basic Needs - includes but not limited to wood, propane, gas, electricity, water, phone, garbage, and internet.

Food - Any edible item purchased from a grocery store, excluding alcohol and tobacco products.

IV. FOOD CARD ASSISTANCE:

Eligibility

- 1. In order to receive the full amount awarded for this policy, the beneficiary must be an enrolled member of the Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria age 18 and above.
- 2. Tribal member must submit a completed benefit request application 7-14 days in advance.

Limits of Assistance

- 1. Tribal members can receive one food card per quarter in the amount of \$150.00 not to exceed \$600.00 per calendar year.
- 2. Food must be purchased from a grocery store, this policy will not cover fast food or

restaurant food.

- 3. Reimbursements for food purchases will not be accepted.
- 4. No alcohol or tobacco is to be purchased using this fund.
- 5. Tribal member must submit receipts to the benefits coordinator within 30 days of purchase.
- 6. Tribal Members outside of tribal land more than 50 miles will be issued a check unless they request a food card for the following grocery stores: Safeway, Rays Food Place, Winco or Grocery Outlet.
- 7. Tribal members may not apply for another food card until receipts have been submitted and accepted.

Program Payments

Once the benefit request form is submitted by the benefits coordinator, the food card will be available within 1-4 business days.

V. BASIC NEEDS ASSISTANCE

Eligibility

- 1. In order to receive the full amount awarded for this policy, the beneficiary must be an enrolled member of the Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria and between the ages of 18 and above.
- 2. Each tribal member age 18 and above will have access to \$1,000.00 per calendar year for basic needs. Unused funds shall not roll over into the next year.
- 3. Tribal member must submit a benefit request form to the benefits coordinator with an attached bill/invoice to receive basic needs assistance.
- 4. Tribal member must submit a completed benefit request application with all documentation attached.

Limits of Assistance

- 1. All bills/invoices will be paid to the vendor only.
- 2. All bills/invoices to be paid must be in the name of the tribal member requesting assistance.
- 3. Phone service bills, internet service bills and utility bills must be in *Past Due* status.
- 4. This policy will not be used to purchase cell phones or cell phone minutes.
- 5. This policy will not be used to pay monthly reoccurring fees.

Food Security and Basic Needs Assistance Program Effective Date: November 16, 2021

C*E*R*T*I*F*I*C*A*T*I*O*N

This is to certify the Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria Tribal Council duly assembled in Loleta, CA and adopted the foregoing policy on November 16, 2021 by a vote of **5** in FAVOR, **0** OPPOSED, **0** ABSTAINING, and **1** ABSENT.

Josefina Cortez
Josefina Cortez, Chairwoman

Edwin Smith, Vice Chairman

Edward Bowie, Secretary

Wendell Freeman, Jr., Treasurer

Darrell Sherman, Member-at-Large

Sheila Moon-Weist
Sheila Moon-Weist, Member-at-Large

Vacant, Member at Large