To: Todd Slatin
Director of Central Purchasing

From: Kim Livesay
Director of Development
Lexington Rescue Mission

Date: July 10, 2020

Re: ESR Clarification
Food Service

Please see our answers below regarding your Clarification Request regarding our ESR submission for Food Service funding.

1. Is your proposal still viable for implementation as originally submitted?

Yes. The Lexington Rescue Mission provides meals to anyone who is hungry. Our Outreach Center offers coffee and baked goods Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m., and a hot, nutritious lunch on Monday through Saturday from 12 to 1 p.m. When the pandemic hit in March, the number of meals we served increased by 500 from the previous month. According to the Lexington Herald Leader, "in March 2019, 408 people from Fayette County filed for unemployment. This March, 18,200 people from Lexington filed for unemployment. April's unemployment filings have continued to climb, making Fayette County's unemployment rate now over 25 percent of its workforce, according to city estimates based on the latest available data. 'We have exceeded unemployment for the Great Depression of the 1930s,' Mayor Gorton said. 'The unemployment rate in Fayette County during that time was 24.7 percent.'" People, more than ever, are in need of food.

2. Please detail any modifications you will be making to the original submission in order to comply with the new service delivery requirements in the COVID-19 environment?

Our Outreach Center has stayed open during the entire COVID-19 crisis and has continued meal service without interruption as we have been considered a life-sustaining business.

Due to social distancing and other service delivery requirements, we have a volunteer serve coffee to our guests in disposable cups and distribute baked good items that are individually wrapped. We also serve all lunches individually in take-out containers. Water is now served bottled, rather than in refillable cups. In addition, we had to hire temporary help to fill in for vulnerable staff who either had to work from home or be furloughed.

In addition, we have added to our food service delivery during the pandemic to meet two additional needs. Our homeless guests have had fewer resources over the last few months as some of the agencies

and businesses they typically received assistance from had to close down. To ensure that these guests would have more than one meal per day, we began distributing food bags of shelf-stable food items for them to take with them that were easy to transport and easy to prepare. Also, our Outreach Center is located in the Georgetown Street corridor and we began to hear that some of the families in our neighborhood were struggling to get the food they needed so we began a Neighbor Helping Neighbor Program. We urged our neighbors to let us know if they needed assistance with food and we prepared food bags and delivered the needed items to their home.

3. Will these new modifications increase or decrease your proposed budget? Please detail any increases or decreases to your proposed budget including additional costs and/or secured funding.

These modifications will significantly increase our budget. The take-out containers alone increase our budget by nearly $4,000 per month. In the second quarter of 2020, we had $8,811 budgeted for food, but the actual expense was $17,600, a variance of $8,789. These additional expenses (take-out containers, paper coffee cups, individually wrapped utensils, bottled water, plastic baggies for individually wrapped baked goods, shelf-stable food, food for neighborhood food baskets, and temporary labor costs) have been offset by COVID-19 specific grants received from the PNC foundation ($10,000), United Way/Blue Grass Community Foundation ($15,000) and KY Colonels ($5,000). However, as the cases of COVID-19 continue to rise, we expect these additional expenses to continue for the foreseeable future.