



resilientcloverdale.org

## Resilient Cloverdale COAD Meeting Notes - 12/8/2020

**Fire/Weather Report:** Chief Ferguson reported that Cloverdale experienced a Red Flag Warning this week due to low humidity and high winds. Some minor damage from fallen trees occurred within the City from the high winds but no major reportable damage. We are watching the potential for more offshore winds later this week.

**Northern Sonoma County CERT & Local COPE Update:** Geoff Peters reported that due to dry conditions, Sonoma County continues to be in fire season. The summer bridge in Asti is still in place and will remain so until we receive 2" of rain.

**COVID Update /Relief:** Pop-up testing continues to occur on Thursdays at the Cloverdale Plaza, between 9:00-11:00 a.m. The recent testing at Tarman Park on Saturday, December 5th was a success.

**Financial Assistance Programs:** PG&E is offering utility bill payment relief programs to assist in families in need. The Family Electric Rate Assistance, and CARE programs are two such programs, [click here to learn more information](#). Locally, Corazon Healdsburg, is offering financial aid in the form of rental payment. All applications must be received by December 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Food Distribution Update:** Over 275 families were provided food/nutrition assistance at the Redwood Empire Food Bank Food Distribution on Monday. - Redwood Food Bank is planning a large food and diaper distribution on December 21<sup>st</sup> at the Citrus Fair between 4:00 and 5:30. Over 500 families are expected. A recent food bank event provided food for 275 families!

**Potential New Non-Profit:** The Resilient Cloverdale Latinx X G COAD group discussed the possibility of creating a new non-profit to assist Cloverdale residents. The need for a location to assist people applying for assistance was identified as a priority. Other needs identified are similar to those formally provided at St. Pete's including access to social workers, food, and transportation assistance. Ezequiel Guzman indicated that he is exploring the establishment of a not-for-profit organization named La Familia Sana (Health Family). He indicated a need for a place to host services in Cloverdale. Possible locations that were identified included the Grange Hall and Cloverdale Senior Center. There was general support for use of the Senior Center as a central location for community resource opportunities (food distribution, application assistance, etc.)

**Holiday Season Gift Giving:** Bob Cox and Ezequiel Guzman are collaborating on a Christmas gift program to ensure all Cloverdale kids in need receive a gift this holiday. It is anticipated that over 600 children are in need. Thanks to Geoffrey Peters who donated 600 bottles of olive oil that will be distributed to local seniors.

**Cloverdale Health Action Update:** Amanda Farrar shared Health Action's willingness to help with outreach services, for a potential new non-profit as described above. The next Health Action meeting will be Thursday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 12:00.



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**Chamber Update-** The [Resilient Cloverdale website](#) is up and running. Content will include meeting notes and other updates on upcoming events. There is a request for photos of Resilient Cloverdale members for use on the website. Please send photos to Neena Hanchett, Chamber Director at [neena@cloverdalechamber.com](mailto:neena@cloverdalechamber.com)

#### **Announcements:**

#### **PG&E Reminds Customers of Ongoing Support Available to Help with the COVID-19 Pandemic Impacts**

As COVID-19 cases rise throughout the state, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) continues to offer support in numerous ways for customers navigating the unprecedented pandemic and reminds our customers that we're here to help.

#### **Actions to Protect Customers**

PG&E intends on maintaining the following customer protections through April 16, 2021:

- Moratorium on service disconnections for non-payment for residential and small commercial customers;
- Post-enrollment verification and re-enrollment requirements have been suspended for the [California Alternate Rates for Energy Program \(CARE\)](#) and [Family Electric Rate Assistance \(FERA\) Program \(FERA\)](#);
- Security deposits are being waived for small commercial customers (residential customers are not required to submit security deposits);
- Customers on the [Medical Baseline](#) program offering customers with qualifying medical conditions a lower monthly rate on energy bills are not being asked to re-certify through a doctor or other eligible medical professionals for up to one year.

PG&E helped almost 200,000 customers enroll in the CARE program this year, providing income-qualified customers with a monthly discount. At the end of October, more than 1.57 million PG&E customers were enrolled in CARE, compared to the 1.39 million enrolled at the end of February prior to the shelter-at-home mandates.

#### **More Energy Saving Resources and Financial Assistance Programs**

To take advantage of additional programs, tools and savings opportunities, PG&E recommends customers become more familiar with the following:

- Separate from CARE, income-qualified households with three or more persons can apply for the FERA at [pge.com/FERA](http://pge.com/FERA) for an 18% discount on their electric bill.
- [Relief for Energy Assistance through Community Help \(REACH\)](#) provides income-qualified customers with financial assistance during times of hardship. Customers impacted by COVID-19 will be provided with up to an additional \$100 in bill payment assistance through April 16, 2021. The program is funded by PG&E through tax-deductible contributions from customers and employees. **To donate, click [here](#).**
- The federally-funded [Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program \(LIHEAP\)](#) provides financial assistance to help offset eligible household energy costs, including heating, cooling and home



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weatherization expenses. To learn more, dial [211](#) or (866) 675-6623 for LIHEAP income guidelines and a list of participating agencies.

- Convenient ways to pay that can help better manage energy costs. Start by logging onto your [PG&E online account](#) to monitor energy use and check or compare your [rate plan](#). Explore programs, like [Budget Billing](#) to help avoid or manage unanticipated high bills.

### **Healthcare Foundation Northern Sonoma County Funding Opportunity**

The Board of Directors of the **Healthcare Foundation Northern Sonoma County** has approved the funding of an additional \$100,000 to the Emergency Healthcare Fund for 2021, which will bring the total of Emergency Fund grants distributed since the advent of COVID-19 to \$240,000. For this round, the Healthcare Foundation will open its first-ever responsive grant process. Grants will range in amounts for \$5,000 to \$15,000.

**Funding Priorities:** Sonoma County nonprofits that provide essential safety net services including access to physical and mental healthcare and food security, are encouraged to apply. Grants are restricted to organizations that serve northern Sonoma County (Windsor, Healdsburg, Geyserville and Cloverdale), including those that are based in adjacent areas that serve people in our region.

The purpose of the Emergency Healthcare Fund is to help stabilize critical physical and mental healthcare and food security providers who are on the frontlines serving the needs of our most under-resourced community members. Emergency Grants will fund flexible, general operating support.

- **General eligibility criteria for organizations:**
- **Serves northern Sonoma County, including Healdsburg, Windsor, Geyserville, and/or Cloverdale.**
- **Clear statement of mission and goals**
- **Meets essential human needs for healthcare, mental healthcare, and/or food security**
- **Target populations are those most impacted by the pandemic including the Latinx, low-income or homeless communities**

### **EMERGENCY GRANT TIMELINE:**

- December 15 –Application Opens at noon
- December 17 – Q&A Zoom meeting (Zoom webinar) at 11:00 am
- January 15 – Application Closes at 5:00 pm
  - End of March – Grant announcements

For more information, please see <https://healthcarefoundation.net/grants/emergency-grant-info/> Or email [info@healthcarefoundation.net](mailto:info@healthcarefoundation.net)