

OMAHA TRIBE OF NEBRASKA

Executive Officers

Jason Sheridan, Chairman
Jerome Hamilton, Vice-Chairman
Alan Harlan, Treasurer
Dustin Lovejoy, Secretary



Members

Leander Merrick
Galen Aldrich
Calvin Harlan

RESOLUTION NO. 24-104 OF THE OMAHA TRIBE OF NEBRASKA

RE: The ARPA Home Repair Policy and Procedures revision 856-491

WHEREAS: The Omaha Tribe of Nebraska is a federally recognized Indian tribe organized under a constitution and bylaws approved by the Secretary of Interior on April 30, 1936, pursuant to Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934; and

WHEREAS: pursuant to Article III, Sec.1 of the constitution of the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska, the governing body of the Omaha Tribe shall also be known as Tribal Council; and

WHEREAS: pursuant to Article IV, Section 1 (a) of the constitution of the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska provides the Omaha Tribal Council with the power to negotiate with Federal, State, and local governments on behalf of the Tribe, and to advise and consult with the representatives of the Department of the Interior on all activities of the Department that may affect the Omaha Tribe; and

WHEREAS: pursuant to Article IV, Section 1 (j) of the Constitution of the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska provides the Omaha Tribal Council with the power to safeguard and promote the economy and general welfare of the Omaha Tribe; and

WHEREAS: in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency, the federal government enacted the American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA"), Pub. L. 117-2 (Mar. 11, 2021), which provided funding for the prevention, recovery and mitigation of COVID-19 and its effects; and

WHEREAS: the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska established the 856-491 ARPA Home Repair to provide a safe and healthy home environment and is meant to alleviate some of the financial stress that many individuals and families have faced due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS: the Program is designed to comply with the public health guidance issued by the US Department of Treasury, specifically that which allows the use of Fiscal Recovery Funds to facilitate access to resources that improve health outcomes, including services that connect residents with health care resources and public assistance programs and healthier environments; and

WHEREAS: the Omaha Tribal Council wishes to further revise the ARPA Home Repair Policy and Procedures in order to improve the delivery of assistance and reduce barriers to the Program implementation by including Tribal member owned homes with deeds that have not yet been transferred to the new owner or may have skipped a generation, and are occupied by the Tribal member heir or next of kin following Omaha traditions of property transfer as recognized by the Tribal Code. In addition, the Tribal member heir or next of kin intends to continue occupying the home after needed repairs; and

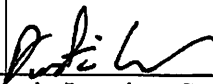
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: the Omaha Tribal Council hereby approves the revised and updated 856-491 ARPA Home Repair Program Policies and Procedures.

CERTIFICATION

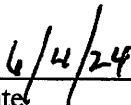
This is to certify that the foregoing resolution was considered at a duly called meeting of the Omaha Tribal Council on the 4th day of June, 2024, and was adopted by a vote of: 4 for; 0 against; 1 abstaining; with the Chairperson not voting. A quorum of 5 was present, 2 absent.

MEMBERS VOTE:	YES	NO	ABSTAIN/ABSENT
Jason Sheridan			Abstain
Jerome Hamilton	X		
Alan Harlan	X		
Dustin Lovejoy			Absent
Leander Merrick			Absent
Galen Aldrich	X		
Calvin Harlan	X		

Submitted by:

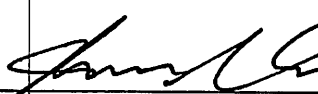


Dustin Lovejoy, Secretary
Omaha Tribal Council

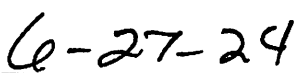


Date

Attest:



Jason Sheridan, Chairman
Omaha Tribal Council



Date

Omaha Tribe of Nebraska
Tribal General Welfare Exclusion
ARPA Home Repair Program
Policy and Procedures

Adopted on: 6.4.2024

Revised on: 5.8.2024

1.

PURPOSE

- 1.1 The Omaha Tribal Council has established the ARPA Home Repair Program (the “Program”) to provide home repair assistance to eligible adult citizens of the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska. The Tribe will utilize funds to address the need for updating homes providing assistance for home repair. This Program is based on providing a safe and healthy home environment and meant to alleviate some of the financial stress that many individuals and families have faced due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 1.2 The Omaha Tribe of Nebraska aims to ensure our community has support during the COVID-19 pandemic in ensuring citizens have access to safe housing and healthy living environments. This program will provide home repair assistance in the amount of \$10-15,000 per home to all tribal citizens who are over the age of 18, are a homeowner and priorities set forward in this guidance.
- 1.3 This Program is funded by the American Rescue Plan Act (“ARPA”) and designed to comply with the public health guidance issued by the US Department of Treasury.
 - 1.3.1 Eligible Uses to Address Disparities in Public Health Outcomes: In addition, in recognition of the disproportionate impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on health outcomes in low-income and Native American communities and the importance of mitigating these effects, the Final Rule identifies a broader range of services and programs that will be presumed to be responding to the public health emergency when provided in these communities. Specifically, Treasury will presume that certain types of services, outlined below, are eligible uses when provided in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT), 47 to families living in QCTs, or when these services are provided by Tribal governments.
 - 1.3.2 Given the exacerbation of health disparities during the pandemic and the role of pre-existing social vulnerabilities in driving these disparate outcomes, services to address health disparities are presumed to be responsive to the public health impacts of the pandemic. Specifically, recipients may use payments from the Fiscal Recovery Funds to facilitate access to resources that improve health outcomes, including services that connect residents with health care resources and public assistance programs and build healthier environments.

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2. **ELIGIBILITY-** The following are the base eligibility guidelines for the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska’s ARPA Home Repair Program
 - 2.1 Is a member of the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska or is a legal guardian of a dependent Tribal Child (under 18).
 - 2.2 Is age (18) years or older as of January 1, 2022.
 - 2.3 Applicant must own the home.

3. **APPLICATION**
 - 3.1 Qualified applicants who wish to apply for the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska’s APRA Home Repair Program must submit the “APRA Home Repair Program Application” and supporting documentation.
 - 3.2 Applications may be submitted online, by mail, by email or in person to the designated program administrator.
 - 3.3 Supporting Documentation Required
 - 3.3.1 Copy of tribal enrollment card/enrollment number
 - 3.3.2 Home ownership verification (i.e., deed). Such verification may include Tribal member owned homes with deeds that have not yet been transferred to the new owner or may have skipped a generation, and are occupied by Tribal member heir or next of kin following Omaha traditions of property transfer as recognized by the Tribal Code. The Tribal member heir or next of kin intends to continue occupying the home after needed repairs.

4. **REVIEW PROCEDURE FOR ALL PROGRAMS**
 - 4.1 The Administration, or designee, will review all applications for all programs in the order that they are received and determine whether the applicant meets the Program’s eligibility requirements and the applicant has submitted all of the necessary documentation. If the applicant meets the requirements and has submitted all necessary documentation to the satisfaction of the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska, then the APRA Department, or designee, will approve the application within (10) business days and schedule the necessary home repairs.
 - 4.2 However, if the applicant fails to meet the above requirements, then the respective applicant will be denied and provided the reason for the denial, in writing within (10) business days. Although an applicant is denied for the “ARPA Home Repair Program” there may be other avenues that are more appropriate to accomplish the desired goals and the applicant will be encouraged to proceed with an application for that respective program. All determinations by the ARPA

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Department are final unless the applicant can provide all required documentation within the duration of the program and resubmit according to the above procedures.

4.3 **Prioritization and Ranking Guidelines**
Highest scored applicants will be served first.

Criteria	Score
Elders (Over the age of 55)	3
Respiratory Illness	3
Child Occupied (under 18)	2
Child Occupied (under 8)	3
Structural Safety Concern	4
Elevated Blood Lead Level (0-6 yrs.)	4
Income below the 2021 300% Federal Poverty Guidelines	5

5. **ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES** – for eligible households, the maximum support will be no greater than \$20,000 per household in the following home improvement categories.

- 5.1 Housing repairs for conditions that threaten the health and/or safety of the occupants.
- 5.2 Repairs and renovations to improve the condition of a homeowner’s dwelling to meet applicable building code standards.

6. **PROCEDURES**

6.1 For Hiring Contractors

Step 1: Upon approval, ARPA Department will work with the homeowner to schedule home repairs.

Step 2: Necessary items to ensure the safety of the home will be conducted by a local contractor and/or tribal staff. The tribe’s procurement policy will be followed.

Step 3: Final payment will be provided post-final home inspection conducted by appropriate Tribal staff.

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Step 4: For Tribal Citizens owned homes that meet the eligibility qualifications but have had to make emergency repairs within the last 90 days due to safety and health risk, reimbursement with appropriate justification will be considered and may be eligible.

6.2 For Self-Repairs

Due to lack of contractors on or near the Omaha Reservation, qualified Homeowners may be allowed to complete necessary home repairs if and only if they meet the following qualifications:

- Sign a Release of Liability Form, which includes the agreed-upon scope of work and timeline for completion.
- Have an extensive background in the type of home repair they are to be completing. This will be verified by the ARPA Department by the following method(s): resume, verification of work history by the current employer, certifications/licenses, or by other necessary means.

Step 1: The ARPA Department works with the homeowner to order supplies needed for the necessary home repairs. All supplies are to be inventoried.

Step 2: The homeowner completes work before the agreed-upon timeline.

Step 3: The ARPA Department does a final inspection to ensure a) scope of work has been completed, b) unused/unopened supplies are returned to the Omaha Tribe and inventoried. The ARPA Department is to complete the Certificate of Inspection form to confirm the project's conclusion.

7. CONCLUSION OF THE PROGRAM

- 7.1 The conclusion of this program will occur on December 30, 2024 or when funds are expended.

8. RIGHT TO REVISE

- 8.1 The Omaha Tribe of Nebraska reserves the right to revise, modify, delete, or add to any of the Emergency Home Repair Program depending on the funds available and, as determined by the Tribal Council who is exercising its inherent sovereignty to authorize and administer programs to benefit the general welfare of the tribal community.