

HIDALGO COUNTY **CARES ACT RELIEF FUNDS REPORT**

OFFICE OF COUNTY JUDGE RICHARD F. CORTEZ



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On March 21, 2020, Hidalgo County saw its first positive case of COVID-19, just weeks after the county's Office of Emergency Management and its Department of Health and Human Services had stepped up its Emergency Preparedness level in anticipation of the arrival of this pandemic.

Since then, more than 28,000 people in Hidalgo County have tested positive for the virus and we have seen more than 1,200 of our neighbors, family and friends die from complications of this disease. Along the way, we have engaged with local, state and federal officials to fashion a response that would slow the spread of this virus and provide for the necessary health care for those who contract the disease.

We commend the response by local officials from health care workers to first responders to those working diligently to deliver goods to our residents. We are appreciative of the help that has been sent to us by the State and Federal government. The \$151 million that was initially allocated to us by the federal CARES Act has been a blessing -- and a challenge. We have had to balance the differing needs and priorities of 22 municipalities while remaining focused on the public safety and the economic well-being of this community. We are proud of the way in which we have achieved this balance.

Our objective as stewards of this funding is to disseminate it equitably to urban and rural residents. We confront two realities: this disease is not going away soon; and, ultimately, we are responsible for ensuring that the funding is spent in the manner prescribed by Congress.

We invite the inquiry by the Rio Grande Valley delegation to the Texas Legislature pursuant to Chapter 552, Section 552.008 of the Government Code, Information for Legislative Purposes.

This package contains a graphical overview of CARES Act funding, distribution, expenditures and budgeting by five committees that were tasked with developing a unified strategy for Hidalgo County. We are proud of their work and we believe it should serve as a model for dealing with the pandemic and the community's economic well-being. The overview includes summary answers to the eight questions posed by the Legislative delegation.

The Appendix section contains specific information that is responsive to the information being sought by the delegation. We look forward to future collaboration regarding Hidalgo County's efforts to containment and recovery as it relates to this virus.

"We understand the heartbreak and hardships our residents are facing."

Hidalgo County Judge Richard F. Cortez

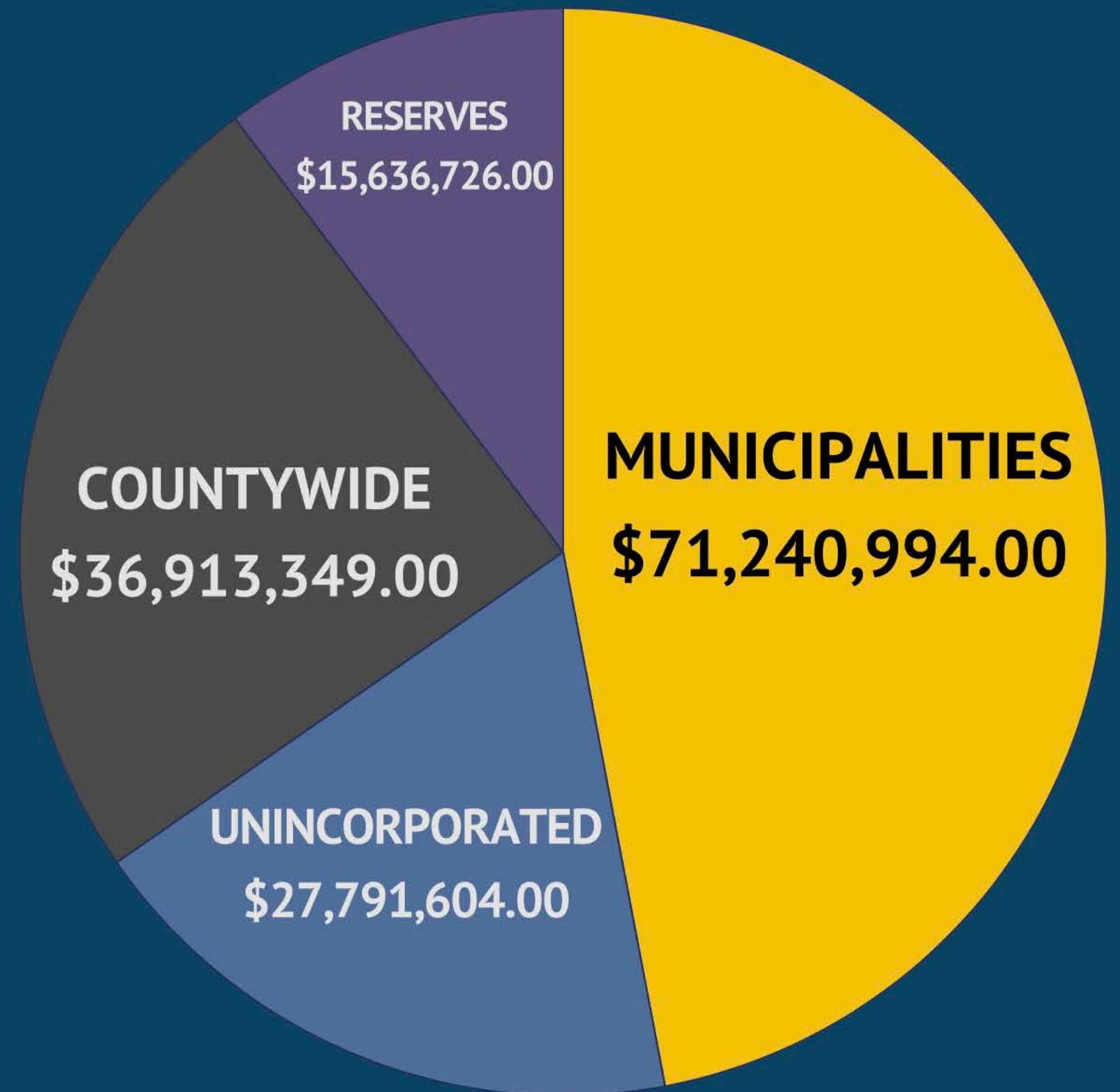
CARES ACT

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act was passed by Congress and signed into law by President Trump on **March 27th, 2020**.

This over **\$2 trillion economic relief package** delivers on the commitment to protecting the American people from the public health and economic impacts of COVID-19.



TOTAL FUNDING TO HIDALGO COUNTY: \$151.6 M



Municipal

- 22 receive funding per population for assistance programs in cities.

Reserves

- Reserves were held back to address unforeseen developments (hospital needs, etc.)



ALLOCATION FUNDING

Unincorporated County

- Hidalgo County administers funding for assistance programs in rural areas.

General Countywide Benefit

- Hidalgo County administers funding for general countywide benefit for all Hidalgo County residents (Health Department, Emergency Management, Courthouse, Jail, Precinct Offices, JPs, etc.)

The County will distribute funds among Cities & Unincorporated Areas in the County.



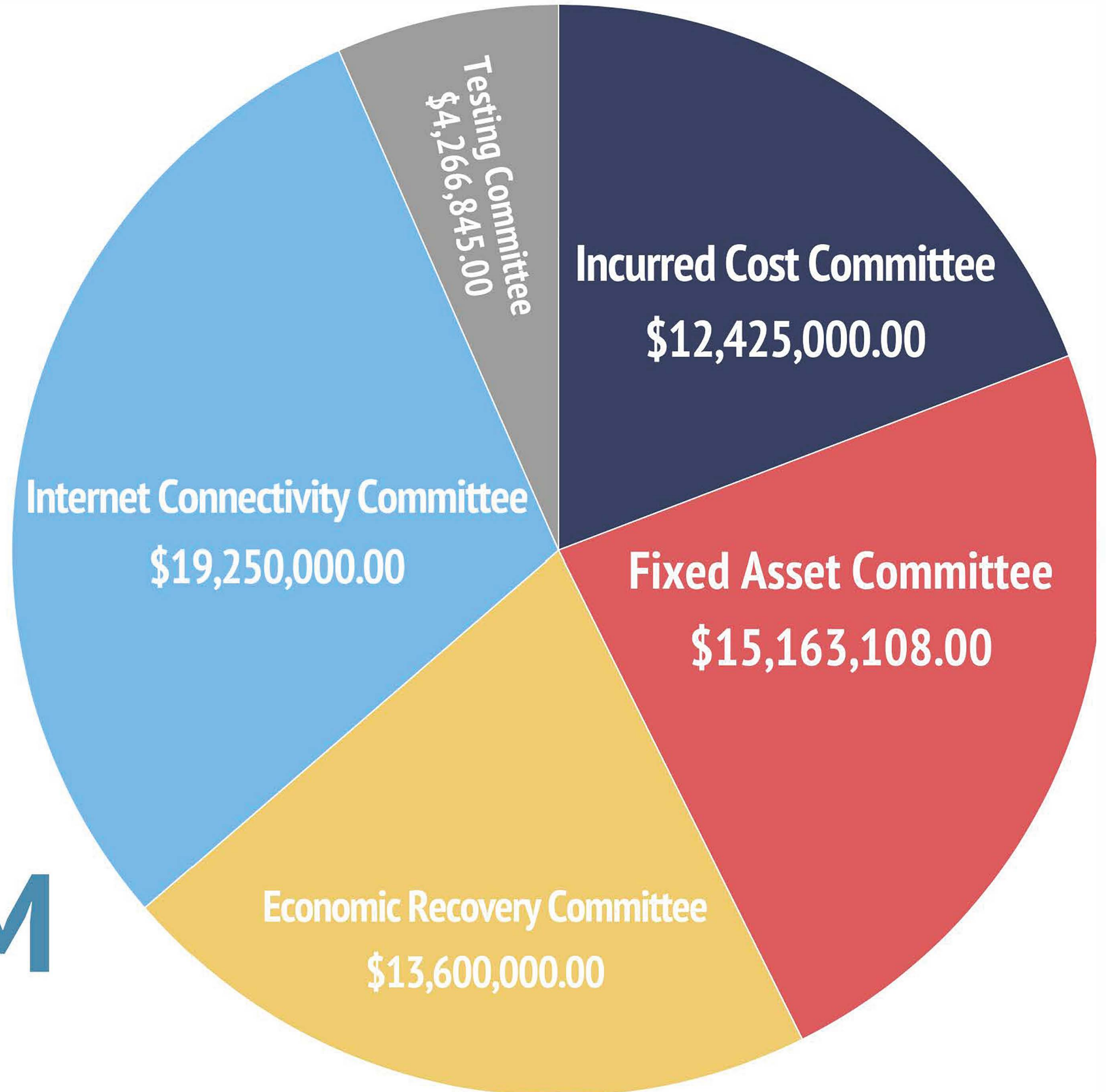
MUNICIPAL ALLOCATION



\$71 M
Allocated to
Municipalities in
Hidalgo County
for Coronavirus
Relief Funding

MUNICIPALITY	POP.	ALLOCATION
Alamo	19,910	\$2,269,740
Alton	18,105	\$2,063,970
Donna	16,338	\$1,862,532
Edcouch	3,313	\$377,682
Edinburg	101,170	\$11,533,380
Elsa	7,174	\$817,836
Granjeno	315	\$35,910
Hidalgo	14,183	\$1,616,862
La Joya	4,293	\$489,402
La Villa	2,870	\$327,180
McAllen	143,268	\$16,332,552
Mercedes	16,604	\$1,892,856
Mission	84,331	\$9,613,734
Palmhurst	2,732	\$311,448
Palmview	13,411	\$1,528,854
Penitas	8,750	\$997,500
Pharr	79,112	\$9,018,768
Progreso	5,944	\$677,616
Progreso Lakes	291	\$33,174
San Juan	37,008	\$4,218,912
Sullivan City	4,170	\$475,380
Weslaco	41,629	\$4,745,706
TOTALS	624,921	\$71,240,994

COMMITTEE ALLOCATION



Total Funding for Hidalgo County: **\$64.7M**

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