## COVID-19 FUNERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

On March 24, FEMA released the interim policy guidance on the COVID-19 Funeral Assistance program. It will be a reimbursement program for eligible funeral expenses for deaths related to COVID-19 that occurred after January 20, 2020.

Please see the press release for more information about the newly released policy: <u>FEMA</u> to Help Pay Funeral Costs for COVID-19-Related Deaths.

The program is not yet active, but is anticipated to begin in early April. This bulletin is simply a notice to provide awareness of the impending launch, allowing individuals an opportunity to begin to gather documentation and case workers time to gain familiarity. If your organization provides funeral assistance please take a look at how your program may interact with the FEMA's COVID-19 Funeral Assistance program to avoid duplication of benefits. For those accustomed to conventional natural disaster responses please note that FEMA intends to establish a dedicated toll-free phone number for COVID-19 Funeral Assistance.gov.

For those looking for more specific details about the program please go to the <u>COVID-19</u> <u>Funeral Assistance</u> website.

DHS Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships Have a comment, question or looking for information? E-mail us at Partnerships@fema.dhs.gov