

## Pamela S. Ulmer

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**From:** Kristin McCombe  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 9:37 AM  
**To:** Ande Banks; Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Fwd: VPAS comments for CDBG recommendations

Ande and Pam,

These are comments for the CDBG public hearing tomorrow night and need to be read at the meeting. Is this an acceptable format or do I need to ask her to call in live?

Kristin

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Beth Bland <beth@vpas.info>  
**Date:** May 11, 2020 at 8:40:08 AM EDT  
**To:** Kristin McCombe <Kristin.McCombe@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Subject:** VPAS comments for CDBG recommendations

**WARNING: This email was sent from outside of your organization.**

Kristin

Please accept this email as my comments for the review of the CDBG proposal scheduled to be discussed at the May 12, 2020 City Council meeting.

Valley Program for Aging Services (VPAS) requested \$20,000 to provide Meals on Wheels for LMI city residents 62 years or older. An additional \$20,000 was requested on May 5, 2020.

VPAS delivers a nutritious meal but also a security check to ensure the meal recipient's safety and wellbeing.

In response to COVID-19, VPAS is in action providing 5 meals in one weekly delivery to limit exposure to our most vulnerable citizens. We have implemented a telephone checking program where meal recipients and other older community members receive a regular wellness check by phone to reduce social isolation. Harrisonburg Senior Center members have been transitioned to Meals on Wheels. We are working with Blue Ridge Area Food Bank to deliver food boxes to meal recipients that need extra food support. Meal recipients are receiving hygiene bags containing vital items such as toilet paper, soap, lotion, etc. Adult undergarments, nutrition drinks, and emergency groceries are also being provided as needed. Caregivers are also receiving extra support as well to help navigate these challenging times. Our case managers continue to offer support, assistance, and Medicare counseling by telephone.

We are actively working to ensure that the older residents of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County that are food insecure during this time of crisis will have access to food and other services to keep them

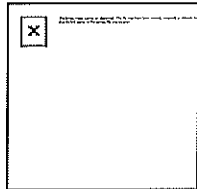
healthy and safe. Supporting VPAS' CDBG request delivers more than a meal. It brings a supportive network to assist during times of crisis such as we are experiencing now.

I humbly request the support of the Council for CDBG funding to help VPAS to continue to serve Harrisonburg's older residents facing food insecurity.

Beth Bland, Director of Senior Services Harrisonburg, Rockingham County  
& Director of Development

[www.vpas.info](http://www.vpas.info)

Valley Program for Aging Services



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