



INDONESIAN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

Empowering People for Better Good

Washington, DC – <http://www.indonesianamerican.org>

PRESS RELEASE

Indonesian American Association (IAA) is among 28 organizations providing food assistance awarded grant totaling more than \$1.2 million by Montgomery County in August 2020. The grants are intended to improve infrastructure and expand capacity to deliver food to hard-to-reach communities, the Indonesian American is among them. About 70% of Indonesian Americans in the DMV area live in Montgomery County, MD.

IAA thanks the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), the Montgomery County Food Council (MCFC), the Healthcare Initiative Foundation (HIF), and the Greater Washington Community Foundation (The Community Foundation) for entrusting us as one of the grantees,

The program was funded by the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, the Community Food Rescue mini grants program and the Food Security Fund at the Greater Washington Community Foundation.

Since the beginning of the Coronavirus pandemic, the Indonesian American community has also been hit with food insecurity and reduced income. Over the past three months, IAA has received three grants totaling almost \$70,000 and other in-kind donations to deliver food to the community, increase our organization capacity, and now we will be able to have a space to continuously provide food assistance to the community. IAA has also helped those who need financial assistance and rental assistance through Montgomery County's EARP and Rental Assistance Programs.

IAA has worked with many cultural and faith-based Indonesian organizations in the community and other organizations in the DMV area to support the Food Access Program. Through this program IAA has conducted seven food distributions delivering, on average, 150 packages of cultural food essentials, produce, milk, and dairy (for a total over 30,000 lbs of food). This grant will allow us to have our own facility to continue the food assistance and other programs.

We thank the community for all their continuous support of and volunteerism for the programs and will continue to serve our communities during this difficult time and beyond.

Washington DC, Sept 4, 2020

Oscar Zaky/President

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