COO NOTE 4 – Emergency Relief (6 Jan 2020)

Are you authorized to issue loans in an emergency that is not covered by the CGMA Manual and you are unable to get anyone from CGMA HQ on the phone? Almost certainly. The question you have to ask is…

Does it involve the safety and security of a CG member or their family?

If the answer is yes, then you may issue an emergency loan of up to $3000 to the member. Just please send the Chief Operating Officer an email as soon as practicable, explaining the situation.

Examples:

There is a major fire in government housing and eight CG families had to evacuate and move into hotels temporarily. – Yes, you absolutely can provide these members with loans of up to $3000 each immediately. (FYA – We did eventually turn a portion of the loans in this real case to grants for the portion that the members were out of pocket.)

There is a disaster at a nearby refinery and the air is deemed toxic in the surrounding community and several CG families had to evacuate temporarily. Yes, you absolutely can provide these members with loans of up to $3000 each immediately. (Eventually their costs were covered by the CG due to the issuance of evacuation orders.)

A member and his family live in a building that is raided by law enforcement. Turns out there was a drug operation being run out of one of the condos. Member wants to relocate IMMEDIATELY. Yes, you can give them a loan for this.

For all of these cases, only a Form 5 would be needed. No budget (Form 15 would be needed.)

When members are submitting their requests, ask them to only get the amount they think they actually need. Yes, they can get up to $3000, but if they are going to be out of their house for only three days, they won’t need that much.

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