



# COUNTY OF LANCASTER

FOUNDED 1651 IN VIRGINIA

## DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

LANCASTER COURTHOUSE  
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Dr. Robert S. Westbrook, 5<sup>th</sup> District

### DECLARATION OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY FOR THE COUNTY OF LANCASTER, VIRGINIA, DUE TO THE THREAT OF PUBLIC HEALTH FROM COVID-19

On this date, March 18, 2020, I do hereby declare that a state of emergency exists in the County of Lancaster due to the threat of a novel coronavirus, now designated COVID-19. COVID-19 was detected in China in December 2019, and has since, spread to more than 100 locations worldwide, including the United States. On January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services declared a national public health emergency. On March 12, 2020, due to multiple cases of COVID-19 having been confirmed in Virginia, Governor Ralph S. Northam declared that a state of emergency and disaster existed in the Commonwealth, and further, on March 13, 2020 Governor Northam ordered temporary closure of public schools throughout the Commonwealth to prevent further spread of the virus and asked local governments not to meet and the public not to gather in crowds of more than 10.

As the Director of Emergency Management of the County of Lancaster I do hereby find that COVID-19 poses a threat to public health of sufficient severity and magnitude to require a coordinated governmental response to mitigate the spread of the disease and emergency means to ensure the continuity of government.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED** that an emergency does now exist throughout Lancaster County; and

**IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED** that during the existence of said emergency, the powers, functions, and duties of the Emergency Management Organization of Lancaster County shall be prescribed by State Law and the Ordinances, Resolutions, and approved plans of Lancaster County in order to mitigate the effects of COVID-19; and,

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that during the existence of said emergency, the Emergency Coordinator or County Administrator is authorized to commit County funds, in sums sufficient and not to exceed fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) in the said emergency, and that such funds are hereby appropriated in the amount of twenty five thousand dollars (\$25,000) to the *Disaster Response* account (32403-5899).

*Robert S. Westbrook, DDS 3-18-2020*

Robert S. Westbrook, DDS      Date  
Director of Emergency Management  
County of Lancaster  
Commonwealth of Virginia

Attest:

*Don G. Gill*

Don G. Gill  
County Administrator  
County of Lancaster  
Commonwealth of Virginia