



UNITED STATES LIGHTHOUSE SOCIETY

9005 Point No Point Rd. NE
Hansville, WA 98340
Phone: 415-362-7255
www.uslhs.org

These are tough times, for all of us. The financial hardship caused by this pandemic has slowed travel and tourism, making it so much harder for lighthouse groups -- especially small lighthouse groups dependent on gate receipts for most of their operating budgets -- to share the legacy of the lights they work to preserve.

Since its inception, the United States Lighthouse Society lighthouse preservation grant program has awarded funds to many not-for-profit lighthouse organizations across the nation, all designed to help restore or preserve the lights we all love -- what is commonly referred to as "bricks and mortar" projects. This year, in light of Coronavirus, we are taking a new direction and will award grants to help preserve lighthouse organizations themselves with emergency relief grants similar to what the Federal government has done for all the citizens of the US.

We are pleased to announce that the Society will offer 20 grants of up to \$1,000 each to help ease the financial stress on lighthouse preservation groups that need financial help and encouragement, to see these tough times through.

If you are a nonprofit lighthouse preservation organization, museum or public venue, we invite you to send us a simple email requesting help. Please direct this to the Society's Executive Director Jeff Gales: jeff@uslhs.org and put "Emergency Relief" in the subject line. Once received, a team of Society experts, led by our Vice President Henry Gonzalez, will evaluate requests in a timely manner and distribute funds as quickly as possible. The email application deadline for this round of funding is June 10 with awards being made by June 30.

Your request doesn't have to be detailed. Just identify your organization and your lighthouse clearly, affirm your not-for-profit status, and let us know generally what you need the money for and how urgent that need is. Tell us how the grant would impact your organization (for example, by leveraging other donations or a match, saving a job, keeping the lights on or doing some needed maintenance that otherwise would be deferred). And let us know if you've received any CARES Act or other governmental help, so we can get a feeling for how that aid is working for the lighthouse community.

That's it. We're not going to require a budget or a report, we just want to get some support directly to the lighthouse community now more than ever. In return we ask that those of you who apply for grants would let your members and volunteers know, helping us to promote the program. In addition, we would deeply appreciate it if you could encourage your members also to join the United States Lighthouse Society to access the wider community, take advantage of our ever-increasing research databases and to support our ongoing mission to preserve lighthouses and their history.

We hope to hear from you soon. And we really hope we can help, at least a little. Stay safe.

Mike Vogel, President

