

## GIFT Program

The City of Gaston staff members have recognized a potential need in our community. Through the support of organizations in our area, elected officials, and staff members, we are proud to announce the launch of a Community Support program called the Gaston Intercessory and Funding Trust or GIFT for short. This program is designed to assist citizens who are experiencing financial hardship through anonymous donors. Through a “double-blind” process of selection, donors are not aware of the identity of the household they select, and likewise the recipient is not aware of who the donors are.

It is our hope that this program will benefit our community as a whole. Applications will be accepted quarterly and all applicants will be required to provide the appropriate documentation to justify receiving assistance.

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### Overview

- The GIFT program will provide up to a \$150.00 payment on your water account.
- The GIFT application will be used to define the criteria by which an applicant may qualify for assistance.
- Upon receipt of the application, Gaston City staff will transfer eligible criteria onto an anonymous submittal form and submit to GIFT Committee members for review.
- The GIFT committee will select the account(s) that qualify and report their findings to Gaston City staff the committee’s decision.
- Gaston City staff will apply credit to the selected account(s).
- Customers that are selected will be notified by mail
- By filling the application out, it is not a guarantee of assistance.
- Applicants must provide all applicable documentation to qualify.
- Providing false information will lead to permanent disqualification from the GIFT program.
- Applicants may qualify for the GIFT program once per 12 months.
- Water account must show a history of on-time payments to qualify. Late payments must not exceed two (2) late payments in twelve months.

### **Income Eligibility Requirements\***

#### **Family Size Monthly Income**

1 person Under \$1,886  
2 people Under \$2,466  
3 people Under \$3,046  
4 people Under \$3,626  
5 people Under \$4,206  
6 people Under \$4,786  
7 people Under \$4,895  
8 people Under \$5,003

*For each additional person, add \$109.00 to monthly income.*

*\* Income guidelines will change as of October 2017.*

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Application

**Yes No**

US Citizen?

Are you employed? If yes, name of employer \_\_\_\_\_

Monthly income, (include copies of your last two (2) pay stubs) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Retired?

Monthly income, (include copies of your last two (2) pay stubs) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Are you receiving any assistance?

Monthly amount received, (include copies of you last two (2) vouchers) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Are you or any in your household disabled?

Did you or someone in your household serve in the military?

Number of people living in the household \_\_\_\_\_

Number under 18 \_\_\_\_\_

Number over 65 \_\_\_\_\_

Monthly rent/mortgage \_\_\_\_\_

Monthly utility expense \_\_\_\_\_

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Please briefly describe why you are applying

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