HURON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Terry Boose\* Joe Hintz\* Bruce "Skip" Wilde

Vickie Ziemba, Administrator /Clerk

PRESS RELEASE

October 7, 2020

**Huron County Commissioners Broaden Scope of the**

**"Huron County CARES Small Business Grant Program"**

***New guidelines aimed at assisting more Huron County businesses and nonprofits hit by pandemic***

Huron County Commissioners, Joe Hintz, Terry Boose, and Bruce "Skip" Wilde have broadened the scope of the Huron County CARES Small Business Grant Program - and approved the use of additional federal CARES Act funds for an additional Grant Cycle and a PPE & COVID-Related Expense Only opportunity. The next round of grant awards will remain $2,500; $5,000; or $10,000. PPE and COVID-Related Expense grant awards do not have a predetermined grant level.

To qualify for the grant program, businesses must:

* Be locally owned and operated in Huron County. For profit, not-for-profit, and sole proprietorships are eligible to apply for this next round of grant awards or the PPE & COVID-Related Expense grant opportunity.
* Demonstrate a negative impact and revenue loss as a result of COVID-19 if in operation longer than one year. Businesses established in 2019 or prior to February 25, 2020 are eligible to apply.
* Be current on all state, federal and local taxes
* Have annual gross receipts of less than $2,000,000
* Be a business with fewer than 100 employees

A business that has received federal assistance due to COVID including but not limited to the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), and Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL), can apply for a grant through the Huron County COVID-19 Small Business Grant Program

* Requested funds **CANNOT** be used for the same expenses that the business previously received federal funding assistance.

If business is applying for a local community CARES Small Business Grant, they may still apply for the county grant; however, requested funds **CANNOT** be used for the same expenses that the business received local grant funds to cover.

This next round of Small business grant applications and PPE & COVID-Related Expenses grant applications are available starting October 8, 2020. The grant cycle will remain open until October 31, 2020 or until allocated funds are exhausted. More detailed information and the application is available on-line at [www.HCDC.net.](http://www.HCDC.net/)

All expenses must be related to the business interruption caused by COVID 19 and must comply with the program guidelines. Eligible expenses may include: mortgage costs; rent or lease costs; expenses for utilities; salaries, wages and compensation paid to employees; materials ·and supplies related to interruptions of the business caused by required closures; and personal protective equipment or other COVID-19 related costs such as expenses related to compliance with Responsible Restart Ohio.

Huron County Development Council will be administering the Huron County CARES Small Business Grant on behalf of the Huron County Commissioners. A review committee will review and score all grant applications. All applicants will be notified of the status of their grant request. If approved, the grant recipient will receive an agreement that needs to be executed within seven (7) calendar days. Grant funds will be sent by check from the Huron County Treasurer's Office.

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