

## **Ohio CARES Act - New Funding Available**

In Friday's COVID-19 press briefing, Governor Mike DeWine announced \$429.5M in CARES Act funding will be distributed as a relief package addressing several key areas, that have been significantly impacted by the pandemic.

### **Small Business Relief**

- **\$125M to establish Small Business Relief Grant program providing grants to eligible small businesses**
  - The Small Business Relief Program will provide \$10K to eligible businesses, with no more than 25 employees
  - can be used for a variety of business-related expenses including salary, worker health care premiums, supplies, equipment, mortgage/rent payments and more
  - \$44M set aside so all 88 counties get at least 50 businesses in each county
  - Businesses that completes the application, meet criteria and submit will be eligible, on a first come/first serve basis.
  - **Apply online beginning November 2, 2020 - [www.businesshelp.ohio.gov](http://www.businesshelp.ohio.gov)**
  
- **\$37.5M to the Bar and Restaurant Assistance Fund**
  - Focused on the locally-owned community biz
  - In addition, may apply for both relief funds the Small Business Relief funding and the Restaurants and Bars Fund
  - Eligible businesses will receive \$2500, distributed to eligible businesses with on-premises consumption permits including bars, restaurants, distilleries, etc.
  - Must have an active permit as of Oct. 23, 2020
  - To be eligible, restaurants or bars Do Not have to be currently open, but do have to have an active license
  - More information available - [www.businesshelp.ohio.gov](http://www.businesshelp.ohio.gov)

The CARES Act funding will also help with critical services and everyday help for Ohio residents who are negatively impacted by the coronavirus crisis.

- \$62M funding relief to rural and critical access hospitals
- \$50M relief program for Ohio residents to access rental, mortgage, water, and or sewer utility assistance
- \$100M for higher education sites to be used for critical services, including targeting student mental health needs and COVID testing
- \$25M for non-profits
- \$20M to support arts in Ohio