



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Renew Cumberland Task Force Announces Opening of CARES Grant Application

\$22.9 million of CARES Act funding available to business, nonprofits, municipalities and county government

Carlisle, PA – The Cumberland County Board of Commissioners and the Renew Cumberland Task Force today announced that Cumberland County municipalities, county government, small businesses, tourism businesses, and nonprofits will be able to apply for \$22.9 million in block grants available through the CARES ACT beginning tomorrow, Thursday, July 16.

Cumberland County created the Renew Cumberland Task Force to manage the block grants. The task force, made up of county officials and the Cumberland Area Economic Development Corporation (CAEDC) are charged with evaluating applications and submitting funding recommendations to the Cumberland County Commissioners who will make final funding awards.

“It is the charge of the Renew Cumberland Task Force to assist all entities eligible with the block grant monies afforded the county,” said Commissioner Gary Eichelberger. “With this funding, it is our hope to renew our communities while addressing the continuing public health pandemic.”

The CARES Act signed into law by the President in March provides funding for a variety of programs intended to alleviate the impact of COVID-19. In Pennsylvania, Governor Wolf signed an act providing \$625 million in CARES Act Coronavirus Relief block grants for counties in the commonwealth, through the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED).

“Applications will be evaluated based upon the applicant’s need for funding, community impact of the investment, and ability to spend program funds within established guidelines,” said Gary Scicchitano, COVID-19 Recovery Coordinator. “The Cumberland Area Economic Development Corporation (CAEDC) is part of the task force that will assist the county in administering the business portion of the grant funds.”

The application process will be open until Thursday, July 30 at 4:30 p.m. Successful applicants will be notified in mid to late August, and the grant money must be used by Wednesday, Dec. 30, 2020.



Cumberland County Commissioners

Gary Eichelberger, Chairman . Jean Foschi, Vice Chairman . Vince DiFilippo, Secretary

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“Businesses that have less than 100 employees, or any size tourism related businesses are eligible to apply for the grant,” said Jamie Keener, Cumberland Area Economic Development CEO. “Priority will be given to the businesses that have not received previous funds to help owners with working capital, including improvements to facilities for health and safety needs.”

CARES Act Funding will be used for:

- Offsetting the cost of the county’s COVID-19 direct response, planning and outreach efforts, including the purchase of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
- Grants to small businesses with fewer than 100 employees
- For tourism businesses of all sizes, including state and county fairs
- Assistance to municipalities in the county for COVID-19 response and planning efforts, including the purchase of Personal Protective Equipment.
- Grant programs to support costs of assisting businesses during the COVID-19 disaster emergency for certified economic development organizations (CEDOs), small business development centers (SBDCs), and industrial resource centers (IRCs) and economic development corporations (EDCs).
- Behavioral health and substance abuse disorder treatment services.
- Nonprofit assistance programs for tax exempt entities covered by Section 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(19) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

To apply for grants visit www.ccpa.net/CARES.

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