

Town of New Harmony

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CLERK-TREASURER

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Last week the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) announced several grants that were awarded to the Indiana Southwest Region for communities served by the Economic Development Coalition of Southwest Indiana. The Town of New Harmony was one of the recipients of \$250,000 in OCRA funding and \$20,000 matching fund donation by the Kent and Laurie Parker Family Foundation. All funding is to support long-term economic recovery from the negative effect of the COVID-19 pandemic. The grant funding will be provided to small businesses in high risk categories such as food and beverage, personal care, professional services, and retail sectors. All grant funds can be used for working capital, continued operation expenses, or to support remote work expenses.

The call for applications from small businesses to apply will open at **12:00 PM (noon) on September 8th, 2020** and will remain open until **4:00 PM on September 15, 2020**. The grant application award will be based upon first-come first-served and may be awarded to small businesses in an amount of up to \$10,000 each.

Eligible businesses/individuals must meet the following guidelines:

- Be a sole proprietorship, corporate franchise, LLC, corporation, or independent contractor.
- Must be considered a small business (100 or less) and actively operating prior to the COVID pandemic or whose opening was impacted by the COVID pandemic.
- Demonstrate the direct correlation of their business disruption to COVID-19 in their impact letters.
- Primary office or business location must be within the New Harmony corporate boundaries,
- Provide a letter how the influx of the grant funds will help retain a certain number of employees, and
- Provide documentation of company employees, positions, average number of hours worked per week, and average annual salary (based upon the last three months' salary x 4)
- Full time equivalent (FTE) is defined as more than 32 hours per week.
- Micro-businesses/sole proprietors must receive W-2 or 1099 to apply
- No cash wages will be considered as wages.
- Businesses receiving other COVID-19 assistance such as PPP, EIDL are eligible to apply
- Business receiving prior OCRA COVID-19 grant assistance are not eligible to apply
- Non-profits are not eligible

The Economic Development Coalition of Southwest Indiana will be providing program management, oversight and administration of the funds for the communities.

Eligibility requirements and additional information regarding the grant and how to apply may be found at: <https://www.southwestindiana.org/covid-19-grants/>

Business contact for the Town of New Harmony is Clerk Treasurer Karla Atkins –812-682-4846
Media contact for the Town of New Harmony is County President Alvin Blaylock – 812-598-1853