



Borough of Hillsdale

380 Hillsdale Avenue • Hillsdale, New Jersey 07642
201-666-4800x1520 • Fax: 201-358-5002 • Email: jruocco@hillsdalenj.org
John J. Ruocco, Mayor

June 17, 2020

To: Hillsdale's Business Community

Re: Small Business Grant Program for Non-Essential Businesses

Bergen County will launch a grant program to provide relief for small businesses financially impacted by the government ordered shutdown. The program, which utilizes relief funds provided in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, will provide direct reimbursement to **businesses that were deemed “non-essential” and were therefore forced to close in order to stop the spread of COVID-19**. Such businesses can receive up to \$10,000 in financial relief to cover rent, property mortgage, and utilities expenses.

To qualify for the program, businesses must satisfy the following criteria:

- Must have a physical location in Bergen County. Home-based businesses **are** eligible.
- Be deemed “non-essential” within the classification of “Businesses Required to Close” as per the Governor’s Executive Order No. 104, dated March 16, 2020
- Have between 1 - 19 full-time employees
- Be a sole-proprietorship, LLC, LLP, corporation, or S-corporation
- Must have been open and operating on March 1, 2020
- Must NOT be owned by county employees, elected officials, or their immediate families.

The County has indicated that it intends to begin receiving applications starting approximately July 13, using an electronic application form available at **BergenCountyCares.org**. Priority will be given to businesses who have not received any Federal grant assistance, New Jersey Economic Development Authority grants or US Small Business Administration grants or other grant assistance. It is important that your business act quickly to apply for the funds, as the total amount of funds is limited and once exhausted, will not be replenished. I expect the County will make additional announcements in the near future. Questions about the County’s grant programs can be sent to BergenCountyCares@co.bergen.nj.us.

Mayor John J. Ruocco