

Hello Caroline County Chamber Members,

We hope that you and yours are healthy and well during this very difficult time.

Monday, Governor Hogan held a press conference and announced that all non-essential businesses have to close today by 5:00pm.

The [attached guide](#) will help you determine if your business is deemed essential or non-essential.

In addition, several new programs designed to help small businesses were announced. Please visit this website for details.

<https://govstatus.egov.com/md-coronavirus-business>

Below are resources we hope you will find helpful. We would like to thank Senior Business Development Representative for the Maryland Department of Commerce, Nancy LaJoyce for compiling this list!

Please share as you deem necessary.

Health Updates: <https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/>

COVID 19 Resource Guide and Opportunities to Help visit <https://governor.maryland.gov/marylandunites/>

New - Maryland COVID-19 Information for Business <https://govstatus.egov.com/md-coronavirus-business>

CDC

Resources: [https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/campaign.html#anchor\\_1569614257](https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/campaign.html#anchor_1569614257)

Resources for people with disabilities for COVID

Arc CCR: <https://www.thearccr.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Family-Resource-COVID-5.pdf>

Arc MD and DD Council [http://www.thearcmd.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Coronavirus-What-Is-It-and-What-Can-I-Do.pdf?fbclid=IwAR1rxrQwm1OOrDzYSX-M6aU3LonqPauM8h1KalsqM\\_BN5GrvZZ3K6oF-G4E:](http://www.thearcmd.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Coronavirus-What-Is-It-and-What-Can-I-Do.pdf?fbclid=IwAR1rxrQwm1OOrDzYSX-M6aU3LonqPauM8h1KalsqM_BN5GrvZZ3K6oF-G4E:)

## Business Resources

3.20.20 Update: Treasury, IRS and Labor: <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/treasury-irs-and-labor-announce-plan-to-implement-coronavirus-related-paid-leave-for-workers-and-tax-credits-for-small-and-midsize-businesses-to-swiftly-recover-the-cost-of-providing-coronavirus>

**Maryland Resource Guide** – An [A-Z Resource Guide](#), outlining the latest updates and actions Maryland has taken thus far.

**Text Message Updates.** To receive alerts, tips, and resources related to COVID-19 and other threats and hazards affecting, or that may affect Maryland, text “MdReady” to 898211.

### **MD Dept of Labor COVID 19 Layoff Aversion**

**Fund:** <https://www.dllr.state.md.us/employment/covidlafund.shtml>

Governor Hogan and the Maryland Department of Labor launched the new COVID-19 Layoff Aversion Fund, designed to support businesses undergoing economic stresses due to the pandemic by preventing or minimizing the duration of unemployment resulting from layoffs. [Businesses can apply](#) for up to \$50,000 in state money to keep employees on the payroll. Funds from the layoff aversion fund can be used several ways, including purchasing equipment to allow employees to work from home, cleaning services at businesses delivering essential services and other measures aimed at staving off layoffs.

One page

flyer: <http://www.labor.maryland.gov/employment/covidlafundflyer.pdf>

### **Coming soon! Maryland COVID-19 Emergency Relief Manufacturing**

**Fund:** This \$5 million incentive program helps Maryland manufacturers to produce personal protective equipment (PPE) that is urgently needed by hospitals and health-care workers across the country. More details expected to be announced by Friday, March 27, 2020. When they are, they will be found here: <https://commerce.maryland.gov/fund/maryland-covid-19-emergency-relief-manufacturing-fund>

**Calling all Manufacturers** – To assist the State and the people of Maryland, the Regional Manufacturing Institute of Maryland (RMI) is

creating a database of Maryland manufacturing companies that make components, technologies, materials and products needed to fight COVID-19. Invite manufacturers that make components or end products for the medical industry to add their company to the database using the form found here: <https://rmiofmaryland.com/maryland-made-to-save-lives/> As manufacturers sign up, the list of companies will be on the RMI website at <https://rmiofmaryland.com/> In addition, the database will be shared with State leaders and key decision makers who will help procure additional medical equipment and supplies much needed at this critical time.

Forbes: Small Business Resources

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/advisor/2020/03/20/list-of-coronavirus-covid-19-small-business-relief-programs/#4c6ed3a4e89d>

Facebook Business Resource Hub Managing through and building resilience during the COVID-19 outbreak.

<https://www.facebook.com/business/boost/resource>

Keep your small business afloat during the COVID-19 pandemic with this advice from community experts.

<https://www.business.com/articles/coronavirus-resource-roundup/>

To Boost Your Spirit - Free online Power of Positive Summit, April 2-8 <http://powerofpositivesummit.com/>

**How To Overcome Negative Thoughts and Fears - Jon Gordon**

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/Positive-Tip--How-to-Overcome-Negative-Thoughts-and-Fear.html?soid=1011079791951&aid=WGnWmQCNbXA>

**15 Uplifting Positive Quotes** at [www.Success.com](http://www.Success.com) “Yesterday is not ours to recover, but tomorrow is ours to win or lose.” ~ Lyndon B. Johnson

<https://www.success.com/15-uplifting-quotes-for-positive-vibes/>

30+ Leading Experts Sharing Strategies on How to Stay Positive, Overcome Challenges & Make a Greater Difference

Creative Idea (found online) for Children at Home- For those home with children while schools are closed...how about having your kids write notes, color pictures, and mail them to local nursing homes? The elderly in these homes aren't allowed visitors right now. This would help boost their spirits, as well as yours!

For those of you who might be in need of child care here is a resource for you. Thank you to Senator Eckardt's office for providing this resource from the Maryland Family Network.

### Child Care For Essential Personnel: MSDE and Maryland Family Network Team Up

Child care providers have a vital role to play in Maryland's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Our region is teeming with the Nation's top researchers, doctors, and policy makers. As the Corona virus continues to spread and demands on these and other essential personnel grow, they need to know their children are safe in order to stay focused on keeping the rest of us safe and healthy. Maryland Family Network (MFN) is partnering with the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) to make it fast and easy for essential personnel to find quality child care during the State of Emergency.

MFN's free LOCATE: Child Care service has extended hours to respond to increased call volume during the pandemic. Parents should call 877.261.0060 between Monday through Friday from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM. A real time chat feature is available Monday through Friday between 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM or use the self-guided web version of LOCATE: Child Care 24/7 both at [marylandfamilynetwork.org](http://marylandfamilynetwork.org).

Specialized services for parents of children with special needs as well as Spanish language Child Care are also available.

For those who cannot be home with their children at this time, regulated child care is one of the safest places for a child be. Maryland child care providers are subject to some of the strictest regulations in nation. These include stringent guidelines around cleaning, sanitizing, hand washing, and child care provider education. Most of these measures have been increased during the State of Emergency and now also include deep cleanings overnight and over the weekends.

MFN and MSDE have surveyed providers across the state to establish a database of child care professionals who have opted to participate in this historic endeavor. Thousands of providers currently are currently assisting or stand ready to help as the need increases. LOCATE: Child Care only refers parents to licensed child care providers. Most child care providers are private businesses and can make the decision to close or remain open independently.

## **Financial Assistance & Taxes**

The Maryland Department of Commerce is offering three new business assistance programs in response to the COVID-19 pandemic:

- Maryland Small Business COVID-19 Emergency Relief Loan Fund - This \$75 million loan fund offers no interest or principal payments due for the first 12 months, then converts to a 36-month term loan of principal and interest payments, with an interest rate at 2% per annum. [Learn more.](#)
- Maryland Small Business COVID-19 Emergency Relief Grant Fund - This \$50 million grant program offers grant amounts up to \$10,000, not to exceed 3 months of demonstrated cash operating expenses for the first quarter of 2020. [Learn more.](#)
- Maryland COVID-19 Emergency Relief Manufacturing Fund - This \$5 million incentive program helps Maryland manufacturers to produce personal protective equipment (PPE) that is urgently needed by hospitals and health-care worker across the country.
- More information coming by Friday, March 27, 2020

**Want to help?** Do you have resources and capabilities that the state may need to assist in our efforts? If so, please send an email to [Resource.MEMA@Maryland.gov](mailto:Resource.MEMA@Maryland.gov) We are actively looking to connect with the needs of the health care industry. ..Thank You!

We will do our best to keep you updated with resources and information through our different partnerships that pertains to your businesses well being.