Guide to the PPP Loan Forgiveness Program

If you applied for and received funds through the Payroll Protection Program, you likely have questions about how you can ensure that your loan is forgiven. Under the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) created by the CARES Act, loans may be forgiven if borrowers use the proceeds to maintain their payrolls and pay other specified expenses.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce has compiled all of the answers you need in one handy guide, designed to help borrowers understand the process by which their loan forgiveness amount will be calculated and the overall approach of the loan forgiveness process.

The Treasury Department and Small Business Administration recently released the application form and instructions for loan forgiveness. The forgiveness forms, instructions, and worksheets can be can be found and you can download your copies of this and the Payroll Protection Program Loan Forgiveness guidelines by going to www.uschamber.com/report/guide-ppp-loan-forgiveness

June Luncheon Was to be held at Tiffany’s

Sponsored by Miller’s Merry Manor

The monthly luncheon of the LaGrange County Chamber of Commerce, sponsored by Miller’s Merry Manor was to take place on June 11th Tiffany’s Restaurant.

The Beers, Mallers, Backs & Salín had planned to give a presentation on business law.

Tiffany’s is located at 414 E. Lake St. Topeka, Indiana. As always, we would have enjoyed a great meal and even better conversation. We in turn hope that this will again happen sooner or later.

For reservations, phone the Chamber at 260-463-2443 or email info@lagrangechamber.org.

Cost of the luncheon is $12.00 for members and their guests, $17.00 for non-members.

Reservation deadline would have been June 8th.

Hope you are all doing well!! We miss you!

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The LaGrange County Chamber of Commerce would like to extend Well Wishes to Beauty and the Bull! After working so hard to update the restaurant during the “shutdown” to then having a devastating fire!

Thinking of you Beanna, Zach and staff!

Wishing Well

BEAUTY AND THE BULL
BAR AND GRILL

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Monthly Luncheon

Sponsored by: Miller’s Merry Manor

June 11th

Tiffany’s Restaurant

Registration begins at 11:15 a.m.
Luncheon begins at 12:00 p.m.

Reservations due by June 8th
The Chamber News is a member publication and is distributed free of charge to businesses in LaGrange County and surrounding areas. Advertising in the Chamber News is available only to Chamber members who invest in the business community by supporting the Chamber.
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Lake City Bank Facilitates $530 million of Paycheck Protection Program Loans

Lake City Bank announced today that the bank has received approval on 1,677 client loans totaling $530 million under the Small Business Administration’s Paycheck Protection Program. The Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) authorized up to $349 billion in forgivable loans to small businesses to pay their employees during the COVID-19 crisis. The Small Business Administration (SBA) began accepting applications under the program on Friday, April 3, 2020, and Lake City Bank filed its first application on behalf of a client that morning. The bank expects to complete funding of these commitments under the program by the end of this week.

The SBA and the United States Treasury Department formally announced the PPP on March 31, 2020 as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (the CARES Act). Upon announcement, the SBA and Treasury Department indicated that the Paycheck Protection Program was initiated as a “robust” mobilization effort of banks and other lending institutions to provide small businesses with $349 billion in much-needed capital. The SBA announced that it had closed the application window on Thursday, April 16, 2020 when the full amount of the program was committed.

“When the PPP program was first announced, we immediately mobilized a team of Lake City Bank staff from our Commercial Banking, Credit Administration, Retail Banking and Loan Operations groups,” said David M. Findlay, President and Chief Executive Officer. “The team rapidly came together to develop a plan to help our existing clients prepare for and apply to this critical loan program designed to retain and pay their employees through this crisis.”

Findlay added, “Within three days of the formal PPP announcement, we submitted our first application on behalf of a client located in one of our Northern Indiana markets and received approval from the SBA that same day.”

Eric H. Ottinger, Executive Vice President of Commercial Banking, commented “The Lake City Bank team that came together to organize this program brought representation from partners across the bank. Everyone focused on quickly working with our clients to gather the necessary information to facilitate these loans and get the money in our client’s accounts as quickly as possible to help them retain their employees and cover certain operating expenses.”

Findlay added, “With the Lake City Bank team working everywhere from their kitchen tables to our disaster recovery sites, we came together quickly and cohesively to do what we always do, and that is to take care of our clients. The volume of interest and applications has been extraordinary and we are very pleased that we were able to take care of 99% of our clients who completed the application process when the SBA closed the application portal.”

“While the SBA is not currently accepting applications from any lenders to make PPP loans, it has been widely reported that Congress may authorize expanded PPP funding to continue to meet the payroll needs of small businesses struggling during the Coronavirus pandemic. Lake City Bank will continue to work with our existing clients to gather information necessary for an application should the SBA reopen the program with additional funding,” added Ottinger.

Lake City Bank, a $5.0 billion bank headquartered in Warsaw, Indiana, is the sixth largest bank headquartered in the state, and the largest bank 100% invested in Indiana. Lake City Bank operates 50 branch offices in northern and central Indiana, delivering technology-driven solutions in a client-centric way to individuals and businesses. The bank is the single bank subsidiary of Lakeland Financial Corporation (Nasdaq Global Select/LKFN).
A ribbon cutting was held recently in the pouring rain for the new SEE Terminal located in South Milford Indiana, just as the first rail cars pulled in to the new facility. The new fertilizer terminal will save a lot of trucking miles for Edd’s Supplies, Shipshewana. For over fifty years, Edd’s Supplies fertilizer was delivered by barges to the shoreline of Chicago then was transported by truck from Chicago to its headquarters in Shipshewana. Jim Young, who managed the Chicago terminal for Edd’s, said the company’s current supplier encouraged them to build a local terminal that would accept product by rail. The co-owners worked with the Indiana Northeastern (owned by South Milford Grain) to build a 2,000-foot spur off the main train track.

Young, said construction on the $3.5-million project began last December and is nearly complete. The only work that remains is the finishing touches on one of the storage tanks and then hook it up to electricity. The terminal itself has three storage units, including one 2-million-gallon tank and two half-million-gallon tanks. Young expects the facility to be fully operational by June 1st. The terminal will store three types of fertilizer, ammonium thiosulfate and ammonium polyphosphate. These products will be sold to area businesses and farms located northern Indiana and southern Michigan.

With state of the art technology the product can be mixed when the trucks are loaded. It's all computer-controlled, the information can be sent remotely from Shipshewana to the SEE Terminal so the truck drivers just punch in their ticket number and pick it up.

Ribbon Cutting Held for SEE Terminal

Photo credit: Farmers Exchange. Pictured from left to right: Beth Sherman, LaGrange County Chamber of Commerce; Keith Goodman, Lake City Bank; Nate Fanning, co-owner of Edd’s Supplies; Jim Young, SEE Terminal and Jeff Osborn, Edd’s Supplies.

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Bowen Center Assesses Covid-19 Response

When Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb issued the shelter in place order to help slow community spread of the coronavirus and the Indiana Division of Mental Health and Addiction gave mental health care providers the greenlight to provide services telephonically, Bowen Center was ready.

There was no scramble to figure out a way. Bowen Center, the largest Community Mental Health Center in the state had been preparing for a situation just like that for several years. The infrastructure, policies and procedures were already in place.

Outside of its 16-bed acute psychiatric hospital, methadone clinic, group homes and medical clinics, each of which require direct patient care, Bowen Center employees were already equipped to work from their homes providing psychiatric care, therapy and skills coaching (case management) to their patients virtually, without risking COVID-19 infection or disruption of services. Consequently, the Center was able to hit the ground running and it hasn’t looked back.

Because Bowen Center is agile it has been able to provide services at a time of great vulnerability for its patients when they need greater support and employees have been able to emphasize the gravity of this extraordinarily contagious disease and appropriate precautions to help keep patients safe.

During this time Bowen Center has also expanded to serve patients throughout the state and help meet the growing need. Bowen Center is grateful to Governor Holcomb, Secretary Sullivan of the Indiana Family of Social Services Administration and Jay Chaudhary and Rachel Halleck of the Division of Mental Health and Addiction for removing barriers to make it easier for Bowen Center to serve the Hoosier state’s most vulnerable residents during this challenging time.

Successes have been many and are shared by Bowen Center staff daily as a means to inspire, encourage, and share ideas. Here are a few:

**Group Therapy** sessions via phone and video conference are much more interactive because patients now have to rely more on verbal communication instead of visual cues. Patients report the sessions being beneficial and, in some cases, more valuable than in-person sessions.

*Continued on page 8*
Skills Coaches report patients are excited to be able to continue meeting by phone and video conference. The Skills Coaches are creatively teaching persons with mental illness basic life skills. The Skills Coaches are connecting patients to insurance navigators, housing, transportation, food and utilities assistance. They’re helping patients cope with job loss and providing help filling out unemployment applications. Skills coaches who normally work in the classroom with patients are now assisting them with E-learning. Homebound patients are grateful for human connections over the phone. Patients report that virtual appointments are helpful, lower anxiety and provide a renewed sense of hope. Skills Coaches report better insight into their patients’ lives and struggles which helps them build deeper rapport and provide more support.

Psychiatric Services via phone and video conference conducted by Psychiatrists and Nurse Practitioners report the average “show rate” for appointments as higher than the traditional face-to-face “show rate”. Clinicians enjoy connecting on a different level and patients report sessions as beneficial.

Outpatient Therapy Services by phone or video conference conducted by Therapists have an average “show rate” higher than the traditional/average rate of kept appointments. Some report a record high for patients showing up for appointments. Patients report relief that they can continue their sessions, and most find them just as beneficial and in some cases more so than in-person appointments.

Bowen Recovery Center (methadone clinic) is still operating as normal with strict attention to sanitization, social distancing, masks, handwashing and patient screening. The state of Indiana has relaxed a wide variety of restrictions, including qualifying more patients for take-home medication. Addiction counselors are also meeting more frequently with patients by phone and report higher engagement and more patients maintaining sobriety than ever before because of the increase in supportive phone interactions and access to take-home medication.

In this uncertain time, Bowen Center has been able to meet the challenges head-on by treating patients without disruption using a successful model that includes telephonic service options for therapy and case management. It is Bowen Center’s hope that approval for those telephonic services will be made permanent after the COVID-19 shelter-in-place orders end to ensure access to anyone who needs emotional health care in the state of Indiana.

About Bowen Center

Bowen Center is a non-profit Community Mental Health Center in Indiana. Founded in 1961, the center is named in honor of former Indiana Governor, Otis R. Bowen, MD. Bowen Center strives to strengthen its communities and to improve the health and well-being of those it is privileged to serve. For more information visit BowenCenter.org.