



MEMORANDUM

Date: September 23, 2020

To: The Honorable Chairman and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator

Re: **Small Business Assistance Grants**

Pima County has been providing a variety of assistance to businesses and community organizations impacted by the pandemic. In early August I directed staff to implement a grant program with \$2 million in federal CARES Act funding, to reimburse small businesses (with 30 employees or less) up to \$10,000 for eligible costs, starting with child care providers as they are key to the reopening and operating of many other businesses. We received 38 applications from child care providers, of which 29 were determined to be eligible and have since received conditional award notices. Once those funds are distributed, I will provide the Board with a final update, including data we were able to collect on the status of those providers. This initial program was limited to child care providers outside of the City of Tucson since the City has reserved a portion of their CARES Act funding for child care. It appears the City may finally move forward with distributing their child care assistance, pending Mayor and Council approval of a contract with Catholic Community Service to distribute it to families in need of child care.

Next, we will be offering the Pima County CARES for Small Business Grant. Applications will be accepted for two weeks between Friday September 25 and Friday October 9. Small businesses, including non-profits, with 30 employees or less, located in unincorporated Pima County that have been negatively impacted by the pandemic can apply for up to \$10,000 in reimbursement for business expenses made since March 1, for utilities, rent, lease, or mortgage. Utility expenses will be limited to electric, gas, water (excluding sewer), garbage and recycling, and internet. Child care providers who did not apply for the targeted grant program are able to apply for this program as long as they meet the eligibility criteria. This program is limited to businesses in unincorporated Pima County because all but one of the cities and towns are implementing their own business assistance programs with CARES Act funding. For more information and a link to the application when it opens, visit www.pima.gov/backtobusiness.

CHH/dr

c: Jan Leshar, Chief Deputy County Administrator
Dr. Francisco Garcia, MD, MPH, Deputy County Administrator and Chief Medical Officer,
Health and Community Services
Carmine DeBonis, Deputy County Administrator for Public Works
John Moffatt, Director, Economic Development Office
Regina Kelly, Director, Grants Management and Innovation Office
Nicole Fyffe, Executive Assistant to the County Administrator