



ST. MARY'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT
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NEWS RELEASE *for Immediate Release*

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**ST. MARY'S COUNTY APPROVES COVID-19 SMALL BUSINESS AND
NONPROFIT RELIEF FUND TO SUPPORT BUSINESSES IMPACTED
BY COVID-19**

LEONARDTOWN, MD - On Tuesday, May 5, 2020, the Commissioners of St. Mary's County approved the St. Mary's County COVID-19 Small Business and Nonprofit Relief Fund. St. Mary's County recognizes that the COVID-19 pandemic has caused economic hardship for many small businesses and nonprofit agencies. To provide local relief from this hardship, St. Mary's County has established the COVID-19 Small Business and Nonprofit Relief Fund to support businesses and agencies during this time.

The new grant program will have a maximum budget of \$2 million. The goal is to provide grants to support certain small businesses and nonprofit agencies, based in St. Mary's County that have realized significant financial hardship as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak. Therefore, this relief program targets businesses and nonprofits with 30 or less FTE employees that have experienced a drop-in revenue of at least 50%.

Grants may be used for working capital to support payroll expenses, rent, mortgage payments, utility expenses, or other similar expenses that occur in the ordinary course of business.

Small businesses and nonprofits will have access to grant funding up to \$7,500. Entities with 15 or less employees are eligible for grants of \$5,000 and entities with 16 to 30 employees are eligible for grants of \$7,500 (grant amount not to exceed yearly average of two months revenue).

Eligible businesses and nonprofits can submit an online application starting at 11 a.m. Tuesday, June 2, 2020, at <https://www.yesstmarysmd.com/grants/>

Applicants are encouraged to visit the grant portal at any time before June 2 for more information on required documents, applicant eligibility, a sample application and to create a user account before submission of the application.

The application portal will be open until 325 qualified applications have been received.

If you have any questions, please contact Kellie Hinkle, Deputy Director, St. Mary's County Department of Economic Development at Kellie.Hinkle@StMarysMD.com or at 240-925-7178.

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