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**What is the Cook County Community Recovery Initiative?** Led by the Bureau of Economic Development, the initiative was created to provide equitable and comprehensive financial relief and critical support services to help suburban Cook County residents and businesses rebound stronger than ever from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**How has COVID-19 impacted our community?** Overall, 8 million people have slipped into poverty since May as federal aid has dried up. The pandemic has exacerbated the inequities Black and Brown communities face in terms of disinvestment, access to health care, food insecurity, lack of economic opportunity, language barriers, and other forms of inequity.

**Which businesses have been most affected by COVID-19?** Small and women-owned businesses have been particularly vulnerable to the financial impacts of the pandemic. Businesses with fewer than 500 employees slashed 16.4% of jobs between February and April vs. 14.1% drop in employment at companies with 500 or more workers.

**How has the initiative made progress so far?** With \$82M in funding from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and public, private, and philanthropic resources of several critical partners, the Bureau is helping Cook County businesses stay open, workers find jobs, residents stay in their homes and meet essential needs. This document is an overview of the community and business support programs and their progress to date:

## \$82M CARES COVID-19 RELIEF FUND OVERVIEW



### HOUSING

- Rental assistance
- Mortgage assistance



### SMALL BUSINESS

- Loans and grants
- Business advising and coaching for all sectors
- Support for manufacturers



### SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

- Homeless sheltering, legal aid, housing counseling, foreclosure mediation
- Food assistance
- Direct financial assistance



### WORKFORCE

- Job search and placement services
- Free training available for over 40 occupations

## Business Support Programs

PROGRAM COMPONENTS	PROGRESS
<b>\$22.6 MILLION</b> small business grant and loan program	<b>7000+</b> loan and grant applications under review
Focus on businesses with <b>20 or less employees</b>	<b>76%</b> of grant applications are minority-owned businesses
<b>\$4 MILLION</b> to support a business advising network of over <b>40 partners</b> including:	Majority of applicants have less than <b>5 employees &amp; 4+ years in business</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accion</li> <li>• Berwyn Development Corporation</li> <li>• Chicago Community Loan Fund</li> <li>• Chicago Community Trust</li> <li>• Chicago Neighborhood Initiative</li> <li>• Chicago TREND</li> <li>• Chicago Urban League</li> <li>• Cook County Black Chamber of Commerce</li> <li>• Illinois Business Immigration Coalition</li> <li>• Illinois Hispanic Chamber of Commerce</li> <li>• Illinois Manufacturing Excellence Center</li> <li>• Illinois Restaurant Association</li> <li>• National Partnership for New Americans</li> <li>• Southland Development Authority</li> <li>• Women's Business Development Center/Women's Business Development Center</li> </ul>	<b>5800+</b> businesses have received support with federal loan applications, advising and guidances
<b>\$4 MILLION</b> to provide job training and placement services to dislocated workers	<b>10,000+</b> non-profits, small businesses, and independent contractors attended webinars
	<b>30+</b> webinars on resiliency, recovery planning, and best practices for operations for small businesses

## Community Support Programs

PROGRAMS	PROGRESS
<b>\$20 MILLION</b> in rental assistance	<b>5000+</b> residents submitted applications for rent and mortgage assistance
<b>\$20 MILLION</b> in mortgage assistance	<b>1358</b> residents have received <b>130K nights &amp; 391K meals</b> through the shelter assistance program since March
<b>\$1 MILLION</b> in housing stability assistance	We will be expanding capacity for <b>6 homeless service centers</b>
<b>\$1 MILLION</b> in food security assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>BEDS Plus</b></li> <li>• <b>Connections for the Homeless</b></li> <li>• <b>Housing Forward</b></li> <li>• <b>JOURNEYS</b></li> <li>• <b>Respond Now</b></li> <li>• <b>South Suburban PADS</b></li> </ul>
<b>\$5 MILLION</b> in homeless shelter assistance	
<b>\$4.2 MILLION</b> in critical supports including cash assistance for basic needs	<b>26K</b> residents have applied for \$600 one-time cash assistance resource

As the need for relief continues to evolve, the County will expand its efforts to provide strategic, coordinated and critical resources for businesses and residents.

Learn more at [www.cookcountyil.gov/recovery](http://www.cookcountyil.gov/recovery)

