



NBD Town Hall Webinar

COVID-19 Cares Act Funding Summary and Property Rehabilitation Program Update

10/22/2020

COVID-19 Cares Act Funding Summary

➤ To date the City has received \$12.7 million in Cares Act Funding

- \$4.9M CDBG Round 1
- \$2.4M CDBG Round 3
- \$2.4M ESG Round 1
- \$2.9M ESG Round 2
- \$142,000 HOPWA

➤ The initial \$10.3 million has been focused on three areas:

- Resident Support
- Business Support
- Property Owner Support

COVID-19 Cares Act Funding Summary

- Resident Support - \$6.8 million
 - Eviction prevention in the form of direct rent arrears assistance
 - \$4.2M – Catholic Family Center
 - Eviction prevention in the form of legal assistance
 - Pilot Developed by the Justice For All group
 - Participating organizations
 - Law NY
 - Legal Aid Society
 - Volunteer Legal Assistance Project

COVID-19 Cares Act Funding Summary

- Resident Support - \$6.8 million
 - Homelessness prevention – Several partner agencies
 - Providing free meals to seniors
 - Over 9,000 meals delivered to 1,239 customers
 - Addressing the digital divide
 - 2,896 chromebooks provided to 4th and 5th graders

COVID-19 Cares Act Funding Summary

➤ Direct Rent Assistance Essential Takeaways

- Intake is handled by 211 and tenant can enter information even if 14-day notice has not been served.
- How can a landlord determine if a tenant has applied for assistance?
 - We are working with CFC to develop a process by which they will send us a list of the addresses/units where assistance has been applied for and we will post a chart on our Housing webpage, more to come on that soon.
- Funds provided by ESG and CDBG:
 - Require 14-day notice to have been served, however County's funding source does not.
 - Can provide up to 6 months back rent payment.
 - Require tenants to be able to pay rent going forward, although we are having conversations with HUD to determine if we can develop an additional program that does not have this requirement.
 - Requires unit to be habitable, this means it can have code violations, it just can't have health and safety related code violations. A process has been worked out with CFC to advise the City where there are violations and the City staff will assess whether or not the unit is uninhabitable and then if it is notify the owner.

COVID-19 Cares Act Funding Summary



Business Support - \$1.8 million

- Business grants
 - 644 applications to date
 - Over \$1.2M out the door to date
- Restaurants to provide free meals to seniors
 - 20 participating restaurants
 - More than 9,000 meals delivered to 1,239 customers
- Developed and implemented streamlined process of expanding operations outdoors
 - On private property process approved through Zoning (NBD)
 - On public property approved through the Right of Way Permit process (DES)

COVID-19 Cares Act Funding Summary

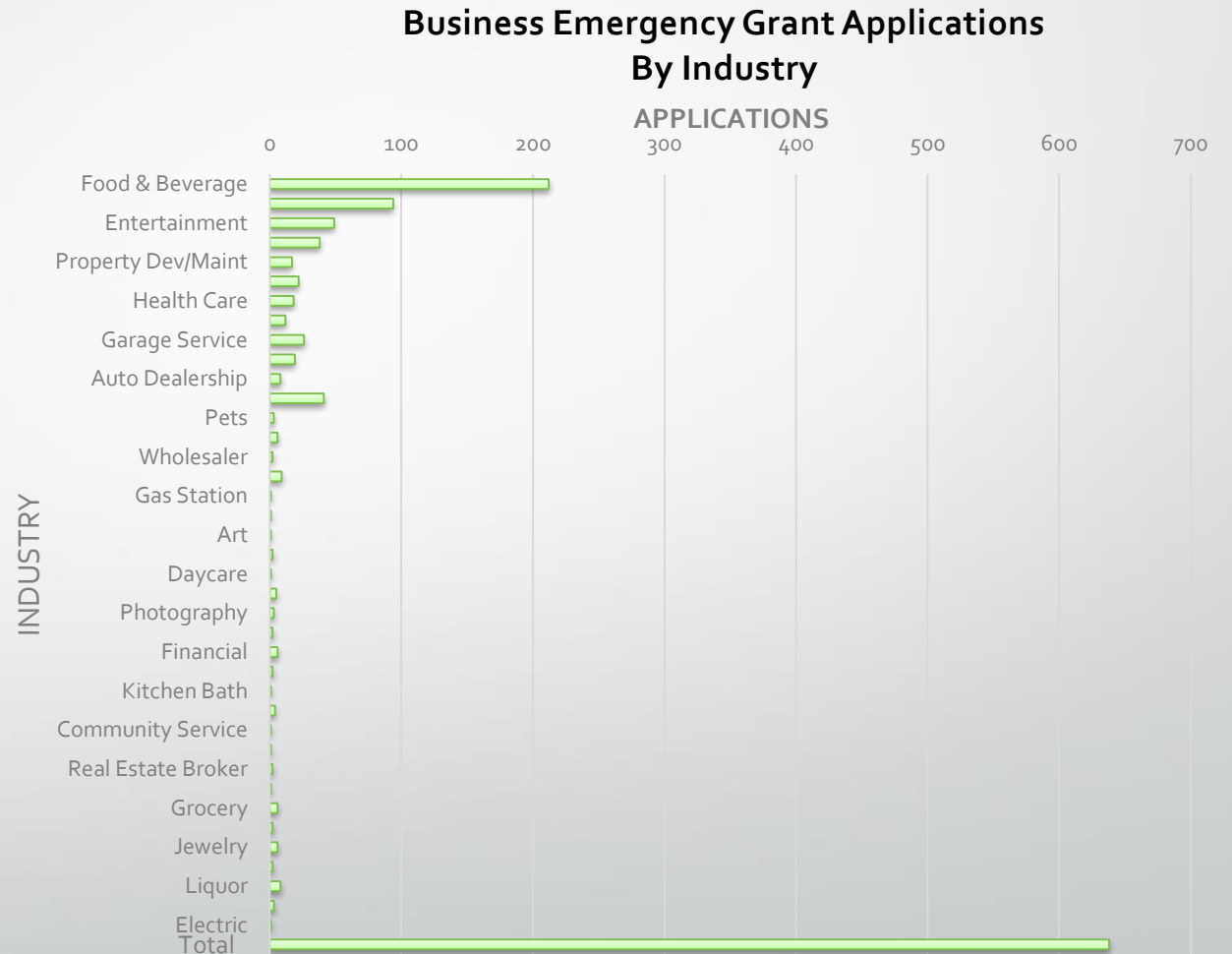
➤ Business Emergency Retention Grant Process

- Download application from www.cityofrochester.gov/businessresources/
- Complete the application electronically and submit it to email address: CityBDRelief@cityofrochester.gov; a confirmation email will be sent to you upon receipt
- A project manager will be assigned to review your application and will contact you to assess for any missing documentation
- Completed applications with all required documentation will be sent for approval and an agreement will be emailed to you generally within one day
- Businesses should submit the original signed agreement to City Hall
- Upon receipt of signed agreement, Project Manager will process a check and it is issued within approximately two weeks

Business Emergency Retention Grant Applications By Industry

Industries impacted the greatest:

- ✓ Food & Beverage (212)
- ✓ Barbershops & Salons (94)
- ✓ Entertainment (49)
- ✓ Convenience Stores (41)
- ✓ Professional (38)
- ✓ Auto/Garage (26)
- ✓ Fitness (22)



COVID-19 Cares Act Funding Summary

- Property Owners Support - \$4.7 million
 - Foreclosure Prevention – Housing Council & Empire Justice
 - Aging in Place – Life Span
 - Emergency Repair Assistance – City Grants
 - Delinquent Rent Assistance – Catholic Family Center
 - Landlord Grants to Rehab Vacant Units – City Grants

COVID-19 Cares Act Funding Summary

➤ Additional External Support

- \$4.3M in Monroe County funding for direct rent assistance
- Streamlined rental assistance intake via the Monroe County and 211 Systems Integration Project
- Dedicated Housing Court for Eviction case
- Mifi units provided by RCSD via 1 Million Project for free with data until June
- Monroe County - Fast Forward Monroe Small Business Grant Program will provide assistance to businesses with 2 to 50 full-time employees in the personal services industry, including retail and dining.

COVID-19 Cares Act Funding Summary

➤ Highlights

- \$4.2 million dedicated to direct rent assistance to prevent evictions, additional \$4.3M in funds provided by Monroe County
- \$460,000 dedicated to the Justice for All effort of providing legal assistance to all residents in the eviction process
- \$1.5 million to Business Grant to offset day to day expenses like rent and utilities, 644 applications received to date
- More than \$1 million to provide computers to 4th and 5th graders
- Over 9,000 free meals have been provided to seniors
- 6,855 people served through all programs to date

COVID-19 Cares Act Funding Summary

➤ Path Forward

- Assessing effectiveness and impact of each program
- Monthly Cares Act summary reporting to City Council
- Monitoring the eviction prevention needs as the courts open back up
- Ongoing conversations with HUD regarding more flexibility with rent assistance effort
- Assessing impact of the winter season on the expanded exterior space for businesses
- Meetings with business community to assess additional needs
- In process of assessing the most effective way to utilize the most recent \$2.4 million received as part of the CDBG round 3 funding



City's Property Rehabilitation Grant Programs

City of Rochester Property Rehabilitation Grant Programs

➤ The City has several housing rehab grant programs that owners can access; these include:

- **Roof Grant** – Available to Owner Occupants – (priority given to seniors age 62 and older)
 - Property must be a single family home
 - Available on a first come first serve basis and/or through a lottery process
- **General Rehab Grant** - Available to Owner Occupants
 - To remediate lead-based paint hazards, health and safety hazards and/or blight, priority may be given to targeted areas
- **Emergency Assistance Grant** – Available to Owner Occupants
 - Furnace, Water Heaters, and Water Service Replacement (does not include sewer)
 - Can be used in conjunction with a Lead Grant

City of Rochester Property Rehabilitation Grant Programs



Housing rehab grant programs - continuing:

- **Lead grant** – Available to both Owner Occupants and Landlords
 - To remediate lead-based paint hazards in residential properties of 1-4 family residence
 - Owner occupants must have a child under the age of 6
 - Tenants must meet the income guidelines
- **COVID-19 Landlord Reimbursement Program**
 - Address minor repairs in vacant residential units
 - Tenants must meet income guidelines
 - Can be used in conjunction with a Lead Grant

For more information on available programs please visit:

<https://www.jumpstartingroc.com/>

Applications for the Property Rehabilitation Grants:

<https://www.cityofrochester.gov/HomeRepairGrants/>

You may also visit or call one of our Neighborhood Service Centers:

Northwest

71 Parkway
Rochester, NY 14608
(585) 428-7620

Southwest

923 Genesee St.
Rochester, NY 14611
(585) 428-7630

Northeast

500 Norton Ave.
Rochester, NY 14621
(585) 428-7660

Southeast

320 N. Goodman St.
Rochester, NY 14607
(585) 428-7640

Q&A Panel Participants

- Mike Patterson – City Councilmember NE District – NBD Committee Chair
- Dana Miller – Deputy Commissioner of NBD
- Anne Dasilva Tella – Assistant Commissioner of NBD - Moderator
- Daisy Algarin – Director of the Neighborhood Service Centers
- Carol Wheeler – Manager of Housing
- Thad Schofield – Director of Business Development
- Johanna Santiago – Manager of Contract Services

Q & A Session