GCP Advocacy: COVID-19 Daily Update

April 5 – 6, 2020 – 7:45 AM

Please note resources and updates are evolving rapidly.

Resources

- Below is a list of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's most recent guides to the aid and programs made available to assist businesses during the ongoing pandemic, including their newest guide to the paid sick and FMLA programs.

- **NEW - Guide to Coronavirus Paid Leave Programs**
- Coronavirus Emergency Loans Small Business Guide and Checklist
- Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) Program Guide
- Employee Retention Tax Credit Guide
- Coronavirus Small Business Guide
- Coronavirus Response Toolkit

State Updates

- As of Saturday, forty states, four territories and 12 tribes issued stay at home orders.

- By Sunday afternoon, 119 Ohioans had reportedly died from the coronavirus, and 4,043 Ohioans had tested positive.

- **Attached are the following documents:** Guidance on dispute resolutions for essential and non-essential businesses, guidance on how to request resources through your county EMA, and guidance on permitted travel in Ohio.

- Governor DeWine signed an executive order that effectively allows Ohioans to more easily access telehealth services from individual counselors, social workers, marriage, and family counselors without the requirement to have an initial in-person appointment first. Read the order here.

- Governor DeWine encouraged Ohioans to follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) recommendation to wear cloth face coverings (masks) in public to help slow the spread of COVID-19. Employers are encouraged to allow their employees to wear masks as well. Read the checklist here.

- Lt. Governor Husted announced that the State of Ohio has been working with providers to find public hotspot locations that Ohioans can use in areas where they may not otherwise have access to internet from home. **A list of hotspot finders and locations by provider is available at Coronavirus.Ohio.Gov/BusinessHelp under the "Individuals and Families" tab.**

- Regarding the search for more personal protective equipment (PPE) for health care workers, DeWine said the state is looking to buy it "wherever we can find it" even as it works to get more in-state manufacturers to make the equipment.

- Sunday marked the first time the Governor hadn't given a daily coronavirus briefing since March 9.

- The Ohio Housing Finance Agency (OHFA) released a Request for Proposals for Environmental Consultants. OHFA is seeking consultants to conduct environmental reviews for their affordable housing projects with certain state and federal funding sources, as outlined in the RFP. Interested firms may send questions to the email address stated in the RFP by Friday, April 17. Proposals are due to OHFA by Friday, May 1.

- Support Local Ohio is focused on getting consumers to purchase takeout from restaurants and placing online orders with local retailers.
  - The #InThisTogetherOhio influencer campaign began this past week.

Federal Updates

- Speaker Nancy Pelosi said in a letter to fellow House lawmakers on Saturday that she wants to bring a second CARES stimulus package to the floor by the end of this month.

- Federal lawmakers are out of town until at least April 20.

- According to the administration, more than 17,500 loans valued at over $5.4 billion were approved on the first day of the U.S. Small Business Administration Paycheck Protection Program.

Additional Federal Guidance *(As of April 5, 2020 at 5:30pm)*:
- **CDC** - Cloth Face Coverings: Questions and Answers (Click here)
- **CDC** - Information for Healthcare Professionals: COVID-19 and Underlying Conditions (Click here)
- **SBA** - SBA Clarifies Eligibility of Faith-Based Organizations to Participate in Paycheck Protection and Economic Injury Disaster Loan Programs (Click here)
- **DOL** - U.S. Department Of Labor Issues Guidance for Respirators Certified under Other Countries' Standards During COVID-19 Pandemic (Click here)
- **DOL** - U.S. Department Of Labor Publishes Guidance on Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (Click here)

Local Updates

- Here is a Cuyahoga County coronavirus map showing cases by ZIP code. The data is from April 3, 2020.

- Cleveland RTA is reducing rail and bus service by 15%. Most weekend service will not be affected.

- Cuyahoga Valley National Park is limiting its operations and suspending some services, including closing the boardwalk at Brandywine Falls, closing the visitors center at Boston Mills, and closing all public restrooms.