



MALHEUR COUNTY

Building 251 B Street West, #5

251 B. Street West #5, Vale, Oregon 97918

County Judge Dan P. Joyce
County Commissioner Don Hodge
County Commissioner Larry Wilson

December 30, 2020
For Immediate Release

Contact: Malheur County Court
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Malheur County Awards Over \$760,000 in CARES Act Funds to Local Businesses

Fifty-two business owners in Malheur County will be notified tomorrow that they have been selected to receive a portion of over \$760,000 in funding through the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

In early December, Malheur County received \$768,183 in CARES Act funds through the Oregon Governor's Office to distribute to businesses operating in Malheur County who were financially impacted by COVID-19. The hospitality industry was prioritized, as well as those businesses specifically listed for closure and prohibited from operating under Governor Kate Brown's Executive Orders 20-12 and 20-65.

Businesses were invited earlier this month to submit applications through December 23. Malheur County received 86 applications with grant fund requests totaling over \$1.8 million, more than twice the amount available.

Due to the limited funding, Malheur County necessarily prioritized and awarded funds to businesses and non-profits most heavily impacted by closures. Funding decisions were made by the Malheur County Court. Staff reviewed applications for completeness and eligibility. The following is a breakdown of awards:

29 Restaurants totaling more than 229 full-time employees (FTE); \$40,000 maximum per restaurant; \$2,985.50 per FTE. Restaurant owners living in Malheur County received an additional \$4,000.

- 5 gyms, dance studios or fitness studios, which remain closed and are currently prohibited from operating under both Executive Orders 20-12 and 20-65. Funded \$2,500 or \$5,000 each, depending on owner residency.
- 3 non-profit businesses, which remain closed and are currently prohibited from operating under both Executive Orders 20-12 and 20-65. Funded \$2,500 each. This category includes museums and venues.
- 10 small personal-service businesses, currently open but for a time closed and prohibited from opening under Executive Order 20-12. In this category, businesses did not have any full-time employees and included barber shops, non-medical massage therapy, and nail and hair salons. Funded \$2,500 or \$5,000 each, depending on owner residency.
- 5 small retail businesses, currently open but for a time specifically closed and prohibited from operating under Executive Order 20-12. This category includes boutiques and jewelry shops. Funded \$2,500 or \$5,000 each, depending on owner residency.
- 56% of recipient businesses are women owned.
- Over 25% of recipient businesses are Hispanic/Latino owned.

A total of \$768,210.54 will be disbursed. Checks will be cut and mailed December 30 and December 31.

“We appreciate all the applications, and we thank all businesses for applying and operating in Malheur County. Unfortunately, there were not enough funds to distribute to every business that applied, but all applications were important as they demonstrated the immeasurable impact and considerable financial need in our community,” Malheur County Judge Dan P. Joyce said.

All applications received will be kept on file to be considered for future CARES Act funding, if such is made available to Malheur County.

A complete list of grant applicants receiving funds is available on the Malheur County website: www.malheurco.org

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