

Financial Help is On the Way for the Hospitality Industry, Bars and Restaurants

On February 10, 2021, the Monroe County Commissioners applied for and anticipate receiving \$1.9 Million under Pennsylvania's COVID-19 Hospitality Industry Recovery Program (CHIRP). This grant program will be administered by Pocono Mountains Industries, Inc. known as PMEDC. The program will make available grants, not loans, ranging from \$5,000 to \$50,000 to each eligible business within the hospitality industry that has been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Eligible businesses must operate within Monroe County Pennsylvania and have fewer than 300 full-time employees. Entities must fall in the Accommodations subsector (NAICS Code 721) or the Food Services and Drinking Places subsector (NAICS Code 722). Preference will be given to businesses that:

- Have not received a loan or grant under the authority of the Commonwealth or its political subdivisions or by the Federal government under the CARES Act or the Consolidated Appropriation Act, 2021. Businesses that have received such grants or loans may apply under this program for money to cover additional lost revenue or increased expenses due to COVID-19, but this grant cannot be used to cover the same expenses or revenue loss as were covered by the above sources.
- Were subject to closure by the proclamation of disaster emergency issued by the Governor (March 21, 2020) and/or any renewal of that proclamation.
- Can verify a defined reduction in revenue as a result of COVID -19.

Specific requirements and required documentation will be included in the CHIRP grant application that will be available no later than March 1, 2021 on the COVID-19 Business Resources page on PMEDC's website, www.pmedc.com, or by calling the PMEDC office at (570) 839-1992.