

For immediate release: 5/28/20

## Small Business Grants Available in Whitman County to Ease COVID-19 Impacts

*Original deadline of May 27<sup>th</sup> has been extended to June 4, 2020*

Microenterprise Grants of up to \$5,000 are being made available to eligible small businesses with up to 5 employees who have been affected by the pandemic and Washington Stay Home restrictions. Over \$80,000 in grant funds from the Washington Department of Commerce's Community Development Block Grant are targeted to help businesses adapt and survive difficulties they have faced because of COVID-19 closures and restrictions. Community Action Center, administering the grants on behalf of Whitman County, recently released the grant application and eligible businesses are welcome to apply on or before June 4, 2020.

Unlike many other forms of assistance being offered to businesses, these grant funds are based on COVID-19 impact to both the business and to the owner's personal household income.

The COVID-19 Microenterprise funding has a competitive grant application process as funds are available on a limited basis and applicants are not guaranteed assistance.

Who qualifies for these grants?

- Small businesses with up to 5 full-time employees (or 5 full-time equivalent)
- Owner and business located in Whitman County
- Financially impacted or closed by COVID-19 and/or Stay Home order
- Business operates from a "brick and mortar" location, not a home business
- Eligibility is also determined by **number of people** in owner's household, including the owner, with anticipated **total household income** lower than the following amounts:

# in Household	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8+
Total income	\$40,150	\$45,850	\$51,600	\$57,300	\$61,900	\$66,500	\$71,100	\$75,650

Applications are available from Community Action Center's website, [www.cacwhitman.org](http://www.cacwhitman.org), and the Pullman, Colfax, and Palouse Chambers of Commerce, or by email at [microgrants@cacwhitman.org](mailto:microgrants@cacwhitman.org).

XXX

### Community Action Center

*Empowering People and Communities throughout Whitman County to Reach their Full Potential*

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Community Action Center (CAC) is a private, 501(c)(3) nonprofit headquartered in Pullman, Washington, that exists to combat the effects of poverty in Whitman County, and help people achieve self-sufficiency. Founded in 1988 as a Community Action Agency under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, it is the largest nonprofit of its kind in Whitman County.

Community Action Center offers services to address food and housing insecurity to accomplish its mission of *Empowering People and Communities throughout Whitman County to Reach their Full Potential*.