

Updates and Discussions

- **City and County Staff Updates**
 - City staff continue to focus on outreach, through the production of technical assistance videos to assist with SBA program applications and unemployment insurance. A bi-lingual flyer including unemployment and training assistance was also developed and will be distributed through various City department. Launch SA is also facilitating business-to-business support through the 'Fresh Perspectives' campaign of testimonials from local small business owners.
 - County staff is marketing the SBDC COBRA Accelerator to businesses in the unincorporated areas and suburban cities at risk of closure, with a focus on minority and women owned businesses. Staff is also considering mailers and billboards as part of this outreach campaign and will begin hosting technical assistance webinars on May 1. LiftFund partnership loans continue to close and the medical manufactures Facebook group received strong interest. Bexar County is also partnering with Maestro Entrepreneurship Center for the Buy Local Initiative.
 - Workforce Solutions Alamo is currently updating its website; feedback is welcome.

- **SBA Funding for Minority Chambers**
 - Jenna Saucedo Herrera reported that the Hispanic Chamber, SAGE and South Chamber are all planning to leverage this funding.

- **Long-term Recovery Measures for Businesses**
 - Micro businesses, including those owned by women, people of color, and those formerly incarcerated, will be impacted differently from larger, yet still 'small' businesses.
 - Supply chain and inventory tracking strategies will need to evolve, which can be challenging for small businesses that do not already have established practices.
 - Small businesses should consider potential liability in relation to employees and patrons.
 - Increasing local public sector purchasing can help support local businesses. Some entities already have programs in place, and additional support or preference should be considered.

- **Long-term Recovery Measures for Workers**
 - Nursing shortage presents an opportunity to encourage this career field for unemployed workers interested in re-skilling opportunities.
 - Residents may need additional wraparound support services, both to return to work, or to access training resources.

- **Listening Session**
 - Additional input should be requested from the public. Given social distancing and digital access limitations, additional engagement strategies should be considered.

COVID-19 Community Action Working Group
Business and Employment – April 24, 2020

Action Items		
Item	Status	Lead
Coordinate with County staff, local school districts, large non-profit organizations and local media (with an emphasis on Spanish media) for additional distribution of unemployment and job training information.	2000 flyers were provided to SA Food Bank. Additional coordination continues.	City Economic Development Staff – Alex Lopez
Research small business strategies Centro San Antonio is considering and determine if promotion will extend beyond downtown.	In progress.	Lead Resource – Jenna Saucedo Herrera
Coordinate with Lead Resource Jorge Herrera to develop a seminar on potential liability issues in relation to employees and patrons.	In progress.	Bexar County Staff – Renee Watson
Research how to facilitate increased local public sector purchasing to support local businesses.	In progress.	Commissioner Chico Rodriguez and Mayor JR Trevino
Research current and previously successful workforce transitions strategies and programs that incorporate wraparound support	In progress.	Council Member Shirley Gonzales and Michelle Tremillo
Coordinate with City staff to identify engagement strategies to gather additional input from the public.	In progress.	Council Member Ana Sandoval
Referrals to Other Working Groups		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No new referral to other working groups. 		