



For Immediate Release

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## BAKERSFIELD & KERN COUNTY BUSINESS RESOURCE RESPONSE TEAM FORMED

*Local governments and business groups develop a business resource response team to assist businesses navigating the effects of COVID-19.*

Bakersfield, CA – The City of Bakersfield, the County of Kern, the Greater Bakersfield Chamber and the Kern EDC have joined together to establish the COVID-19 Business Resource Response Team. An emergency hotline has been created for the business community to ask any questions regarding their business needs and learn about resources their businesses may qualify for. You can reach the response team at 661-336-6860 or you can email [covid@bakochamber.com](mailto:covid@bakochamber.com).

“During this time of rapid change and staying safe at home, we need to be proactive in protecting the health of our families and community as well as protecting the health of our local businesses. I’m happy to partner alongside each of these organizations to highlight resources for our business community. We’re in this together and we will get through this together,” said Bakersfield Mayor Karen Goh.

The Business Resource Response Team will streamline resources for local businesses so that they will all be available in one place. With new developments every day, this team is continuously monitoring and evaluating local, state and federal resources available for local businesses.

“Our local businesses are at the forefront of our minds. As the situation with COVID-19 continues to evolve, we are actively working to make sure local businesses are equipped to handle these unprecedented challenges,” said Nick Ortiz, President and CEO, Greater Bakersfield Chamber. “As our community focuses on saving lives, we must also secure our members’ livelihoods.”

This group of government and business professionals are ready to help the business community during this extraordinary and difficult time. Businesses are encouraged to reach out to the Response Team with any questions or concerns.

“We remain wholeheartedly dedicated and committed to fulfilling our mission to cultivate and promote Kern County’s boundless opportunities for business. This collaborative effort will produce significant dividends for the region’s economic future.” said Richard Chapman, President & CEO, Kern EDC.

“America’s Job Center of Kern County is proud to participate in the Business Resource Response Team,” said Teresa Hitchcock, Assistant County Administrative Officer. “We strongly believe our local business community will play the most important role in Kern County’s economic recovery. Kern County’s America’s Job Center is committed to ensuring that our local businesses have access to all resources that have been created to support businesses to ensure the full recovery of our local economy.”

Services and resources will be available in both English and Spanish starting Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup>.

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For More About Kern County’s America’s Job Center Please Visit:  
[www.americasjobcenterofkern.com](http://www.americasjobcenterofkern.com)

For More About the City of Bakersfield Please Visit:  
[www.bakersfieldcity.us](http://www.bakersfieldcity.us)

For More About the Kern EDC Please Visit:  
[www.kernedc.com](http://www.kernedc.com)

For More About the Greater Bakersfield Chamber Please Visit:  
[www.bakochamber.com](http://www.bakochamber.com)