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**Erie County COVID-19 Response Fund Opens Project Face Shield to Non-Profits**

***Seven new grants awarded to help Erie’s Most Vulnerable Residents***

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**Erie, PA (April 29, 2020)** – **The Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority (ECGRA)** **authorized the purchase of an additional** **500 face shields, which are now available at no cost to Erie County non-profits.** ECGRA already provided an initial investment to support local police and fire with a purchase of 500 face shields. Now, the program has been extended to start equipping local non-profit organizations.

Non-profits can request face shields here: <https://www.ecgra.org/covid-19-face-shield-form>

“As local non-profits consider the cost and logistics to the myriad challenges on the horizon, providing them with PPE for their staffs will eliminate at least one hurdle ahead of opening their doors post-shutdown,” **said Perry Wood, Executive Director, ECGRA.** “We are all in this together, and ECGRA is proud to support the Erie County #MaskUp efforts, per state and county health guidelines.”

The Erie County COVID-19 Human Relief Fund was created by ECGRA and Erie County Council to support those in need throughout Erie County. As part of the latest round of grants, the ECGRA Board of Directors awarded seven additional grants (FULL LIST BELOW), including several grants to support local food banks. **A total of $551,904 has been** **awarded since the** **launch of the Erie County COVID-19 Response Fund on March 19**.

**Grant #26: Corry Salvation Army**

Amount: $9,500

Project: Refrigerator, hygiene, sanitization related things

**Grant #27: Penn State Behrend**

Amount: $10,121

Project: Mental Health Mobile Application

**Grant #28: Christian Cupboard (Girard)**

Amount: $3,000

Project: food pantry supplies

**Grant #29: Ellan Cochran Food Pantry of Harborcreek**

Amount: $1,000

Project: food pantry supplies

**Grant #30: Northwestern Food Pantry (Albion)**

Amount: $5,000

Project: food pantry supplies

**Grant #31: Union City Food Pantry**

Amount: $2,000

Project: food pantry supplies

**Grant #32: Waterford Food Pantry**

Amount: $5,000

Project: food pantry supplies

Organizations can apply for grants on the ECGRA online application system: <https://www.ecgra.org/covid-19-response-fund>

**IMMEDIATE HUMAN RELIEF GRANTS AWARDED TO DATE**

**Grant #1: Second Harvest Food Bank of NWPA**

Amount: $168,000

Project: Purchase life-sustaining food for Erie County families facing food insecurities

**Grant #2: Emergency Shelter System**

Amount: $12,500

Project: Emergency shelter funding for the homeless

**Grant #3: North East Community Food Pantry**

Amount: $1,000

Project: Funds to supplement additional need during time of crisis

**Grant #4: Erie Family Center**

Amount: $7,500

Project: Diaper Depot for those in need

**Grant #5: YMCA of Greater Erie**

Amount: $16,000

Project: Childcare Center for Life Sustaining Personnel

**Grant #6: Mercy Center for Women**

Amount: $9,525

Project: Emergency homeless shelter-related costs due to COVID-19 regulations

**Grant #7: The Upper Room**

Amount: $5,000

Project: Costs associated with increased regulations due to COVID-19

**Grant #8: Metro-Erie Meals on Wheels**

Amount: $2,000

Project: Transportation costs related to food distribution for homebound elderly

**Grant #9: Penn State Behrend**

Amount: $6,700

Project: Face Shields for medical professionals and first responders

**Grant #10: Community Shelter Services**

Amount: $30,750

Project: Emergency sheltering increase due to COVID-19

**Grant #11: Saint Patrick’s Haven**

Amount: $2,500

Project: Men’s shelter costs

**Grant #12: Erie City Mission**

Amount: $39,085

Project: Homeless shelter and kitchen

**Grant #13: Safe Journey**

Amount: $9,000

Project: Women’s shelter for domestic abuse victims

**Grant #14: Erie DAWN**

Amount: $10,000

Project: City of Erie domestic violence safe house provider

**Grant #15: Gannon University**

Amount: $23,000

Project: 3D printed face shields for distribution in Erie County

**Grant #16: Sarah A Reed Children’s Center**

Amount: $11,000

Project: Technology costs related to social distancing/remote therapy

**Grant #17: HVA Senior Living Alliance**

Amount: $6,800

Project: Technology costs related to telemedicine for seniors

**Grant #18: Erie United Methodist Alliance**

Amount: $2,365

Project: Homeless shelter-related costs

**Grant #19: St. Martin’s Center**

Amount: $7,300

Project: Childcare center preparation costs

**Grant #20: Bethany Outreach Center**

Amount: $7,600

Project: Emergency hygiene and food distribution

**Grant #21: MECA Senior Care**

Amount: $3,850

Project: Sanitizing the Senior Center for future opening

**Grant #22: Penn State Behrend**

Amount: $46,500

Project: Expansion of face shield project and N95 level face shields

**Grant #23: Sisters of St. Joseph Neighborhood Network**

Amount: $25,400

Project: Staff costs due to lost volunteer base

**Grant #24: Millcreek Counseling & Mental Health Advocacy Partnership**

Amount: $2,500

Project: Telemedicine

**Grant #25: Urban Erie Community Development Corporation (UECDC)**

Amount: $56,408

Project: Temporary supplemental food box preparation and delivery to Housing Authority residents

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Amount: $9,500

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Amount: $10,121

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