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Funding available to support Marion County small businesses

Salem, OR — Are you a small Marion County business that needs support? Funding is available to help businesses during these difficult times.

If businesses or sole proprietors with five or fewer employees are experiencing negative economic impacts due to the COVID-19 pandemic, help is now available thanks to Marion County. The Board of Commissioners has dedicated \$200,000 from the Marion County Economic Stimulus Funding Program to distribute grants of up to \$5,000 to eligible businesses throughout the county.

The county has partnered with Willamette Workforce Partnership (WWP) to manage the application process and complete information is available on the WWP website at www.willwp.org.

Applications for funding support will be available on Tuesday, April 7, 2020, at 12:00 p.m. Completed applications for these grants will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis beginning on Thursday, April 9, 2020, at 12:00 p.m. Applications will not be accepted after 12:00 p.m. on Friday, April 10, 2020.

Marion County is committed to supporting the small businesses that are the foundation of our local economy, "This program throws a lifeline to those family owned businesses that were shut through no fault of their own," said Marion County Board of Commissioners Chair Colm Willis.

"We are poised and ready to quickly get funding support into the hands of businesses that need it most, that perhaps don't have other options during these unprecedented times. I appreciate the commitment of the Marion County's commissioners and am glad we can serve our community in this way," said Kim Parker-Llerenas, Executive Director, Willamette Workforce Partnership.

For more information, visit <u>www.willwp.org</u> or contact Marion County at (503) 373-4300 or <u>BusinessRecovery@co.marion.or.us</u>.