

# YoCo STRONG RESTART FUND



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **York County Commissioners Award YoCo Strong Restart Fund Grants**

**York, PA – (October 7, 2020)** – Earlier today, the York County Commissioners voted to award small businesses and nonprofit grants through the YoCo Strong Restart Fund program.

Previously, as recommended by the YoCo Strong Recovery Task Force Report, the York County Commissioners allocated \$10 million and \$4 million of CARES Act funding respectively for small business and nonprofit organization support. The YoCo Strong Restart Grant application portal publicly opened on Friday, Aug. 28 and closed to the public on Friday, Sept. 11. The subsequent days were spent determining eligibility and accuracy of grant applications. Grants up to \$35,000 were considered for organizations under \$3 million in gross revenue or for restaurants under 75 full time equivalent employees (FTE).

#### **Key Details:**

- In total, 1,044 applications were submitted for a total requested sum of \$18.77 million.
- All eligible nonprofit applicants will be funded, approximately 107 applications for a total application pool of \$2,045,521.
- A total of 705 small business applications will be awarded for approximately \$11,951,499.
  - The remainder of the amount allocated for nonprofits was redistributed to the small business allocation to provide the maximum amount of grants.
- 39% of small businesses awarded are owned by Persons of Color.
- 45% of awards represent vulnerable industries such as personal care, retail, restaurants, hospitality and tourism.
- Applicants will be asked to finalize grant underwriting and contract paperwork. All awardees will be asked to certify to the truthfulness of all application information, eligibility of COVID-19 related expenses, and eligible use of funds. Once completed, funds will be disbursed weekly by the County of York.

“We are thrilled to achieve this milestone of the grant program, where funds are getting into the hands of those small businesses and nonprofits in most need,” said President Commissioner Julie Wheeler. “Priority was given to applicants who did not receive other government funding support through programs such as the SBA PPP, or the PA Small Business Support CDFI program, businesses owned by individuals of low to moderate income, or within designated low to moderate income areas, businesses owned by those federally defined as historically disadvantaged, or small businesses in vulnerable industries sectors such as restaurants, retail, hospitality and tourism, or personal care.”

Today’s action also acknowledges the possibility that as the grant underwriting and contracting phase begins, awardees may be determined ineligible or may opt to not accept grant funds. In that case, the County of York, York County Economic Alliance, and Community First Fund will substitute these awardees with those next in the application scoring queue.

“The York County Economic Alliance and Community First Fund have led an incredible effort in informing and assisting small businesses and nonprofits in our community with this opportunity,” added Wheeler. “From office hours around the County and marketing to webinars and answering every call and email received, we are grateful for their dedication to York County.”

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