

## **Delaware County Commissioners**

Jeff Benton Barb Lewis Gary Merrell

County Administrator Michael Frommer Deputy Administrator Dawn Huston Clerk to the Commissioners Jennifer Walraven

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Dec. 17, 2020** Contact: Jane Hawes, Director of Communications, <u>jhawes@co.delaware.oh.us</u>, 740-833-2109

## Delaware County Announces Recipients of \$1.83 Million in Small Business Grants

DELAWARE, Ohio — Delaware County has announced the recipients of \$1.83 million in grants from its Small Business Protection Program. Earlier this fall, for-profit businesses in Delaware County were invited to submit applications, documenting the operating losses they have incurred in 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

County Commissioner Jeff Benton said: "Our small business owners are among the real heroes of 2020, in facing down the multiple challenges that have come their way. We are privileged to help them with these grants and we look forward to seeing them thrive in the future."

The Commissioners set aside money from their General Fund for the grants, which were awarded in allocations of \$15,000 each. A total of 122 grants have been issued and are being administered through the County's Department of Economic Development.

"The opportunity to provide measured relief to our small business community is important," said Commissioner Gary Merrell. "The financial support will help our small businesses, but it is also a statement as to how much Delaware County values small business and the role it plays in our County's economic health. I pray for the day we are able to return to normalcy so our County can continue its economic growth and progress."

Added Commissioner Barb Lewis: "I am very gratified that we are able to give a helping hand to many of our hardworking, small business owners who are working very hard to keep their doors open during this devastating pandemic."

For the full list of grant recipients, please see the attached PDF.

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