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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Anoka County Extending Business and Nonprofit Relief Program

Anoka County is extending the deadline to apply for its business and nonprofit relief grant program, and the county is expanding its criteria for awarding grants of up to \$10,000.

The original deadline to apply for the grant program, which is to support businesses impacted by COVID-19, was Aug. 24 to Sept. 3. The application window has been extended for an additional 10 days, from Sept. 8 to 18.

Changes have been made to the grant process to increase the pool of qualified applicants.

Those changes include:

- Expansion of the maximum number of employees from 50 total employees to 50 full-time equivalent employees.
- A reduction in the time a business must have been in operation prior to March 1, 2020, from 1 year to 6 months.
- Allowing organizations to receive more than one CARES Act grant (from the Department of Employment and Economic Development or a city as long as the grants are for different expenses). A full list of requirements and which communities in Anoka County are offering grants can be found here: anokacountysuccess.org/covid-19-anoka-county-business-resources/.
- Allowing organizations to receive a second \$10,000 grant from the county for different expenses if the grant program is undersubscribed.

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Anoka County Offering Business and Nonprofit Relief Program – Add 1

To be considered for a grant, organizations, which have to be locally owned and operated with a physical location in Anoka County, must submit an application online at anokacountysuccess.org. Organizations can visit this website for more information on the grant applications. Email accovidrelief@mccd.org or jacquel.hajder@co.anoka.mn.us with any questions or for assistance with filling out the online application.

“Realizing that these grants can still help many people affected by COVID-19 in Anoka County, the Board of Commissioners decided to approve expansion of the program,” said Scott Schulte, chair, Anoka County Board of Commissioners. “The additional 10-day application period and the increased eligibility criteria should allow more businesses and nonprofits to take advantage of this resource.”

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DK: bv