



For immediate release:

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**Grant Funding Available to Support Businesses Impacted by COVID-19 in
Marion, Polk and Yamhill Counties**

Salem, OR — Support for businesses in Marion, Polk and Yamhill Counties impacted by the COVID -19 pandemic is available. Financial assistance is available thanks to grants from Business Oregon and the Oregon Community Foundation. Willamette Workforce Partnership will be managing the grant process.

The first round of funding will be distributed to businesses in the three county area with up to 25 employees. The amount of the grant will be dependent upon number of employees and fixed operating expenses. Grant amounts will range from \$2,500 to \$25,000. Applications will be available on the Willamette Workforce Partnership website (willwp.org) on Tuesday, July 21 at noon. Applications will close at noon on Thursday, July 23.

Eligible businesses must be headquartered in Oregon, have 25 or fewer employees, have been adversely affected by Executive Order 20-12 or have a one-month decline in sales greater than 50% in the month of March or April 2020. For profit and nonprofit organizations are eligible. If a business has accessed federal CARES Act funding, they are not eligible for this program.

“During this pandemic, we have seen many opportunities to support businesses adversely impacted. This grant program will allow us to serve both profit and non-profit companies, and can support businesses with more employees. We look forward to helping make a difference for companies as our society learns to live with the situation we are all facing. We are pleased to partner with the Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments to help make a difference in our community during these challenging times.” said Kim Parker-Llerenas, Executive Director, Willamette Workforce Partnership.

For more information, visit www.willwp.org.

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