

# MEDC Small Business Relief Program (MSBRP)

## Program Debrief

### About the Program

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- MEDC required regional Economic Development organizations to apply for and administer MSBRP funds.
- The Right Place applied for \$1.5 million for an 11-county region (Ottawa and Allegan applied separately)
  - Received \$1 million in grant funds to distribute.
- MEDC provided allocation by county based on amount of small businesses directly impacted at the time.
- Kent County received an allocation of: \$615,700 (62% of funding).

### The Response

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- Program was launched publicly on: 3/27/20
- The Right Place received applications through Wednesday, April 1, 2020 (5:00 p.m.). NOTE: other counties remained open through Friday, April 3, 2020 (5:00 p.m.).
- Applications received: 3,300+.
- Total amount requested: \$71+ million.
- Kent County received over 3,500 emails in 4 days, totaling over 2,600 applications.

### The Process

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- The Right Place and its regional partners had 4 days to stand up an application receipt process.
- Each county set up an email address to send applications (Kent County: covidrelief@rightplace.org).
- MEDC provided Excel-based application.
- Applicants were required to also submit three years of financial information on their business.
- Applicants were required to complete the application and email it, and their financial information to the designated email address.

### The Evaluation

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- Each county established an independent review committee of board members, business leaders, and community leaders.

- Kent County’s review committee included:
  1. Dante Villareal, Grand Rapids Chamber (COMMITTEE CHAIR)
  2. Richard App, Grand Rapids Chamber
  3. Steve Assarian, Grand Rapids Public Library
  4. Brent Case, The Right Place, Inc.
  5. Tim Doyle, Macatawa Bank
  6. Doug Dozeman, Warner Law
  7. Bing Goei, Asian Pacific American Chamber of Commerce (APACC)
  8. Ana Jose, West Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (WMHCC)
  9. Kyama Kitavi, Downtown Grand Rapids, Inc.
  10. Tim Mroz, The Right Place, Inc.
  11. Angela Nelson, Experience Grand Rapids
  12. Jamiel Robinson, Grand Rapids Area Black Businesses
  13. Darel Ross, Start Garden
  14. Hannah Schulze, Local First
- A grading rubric was developed by the committee, consisting of seven questions.
- Questions were weighted based on input from the committee.
- An online educational grading platform, Gradescope.com, was used for evaluating each application.
- Each application was evaluated by at least two committee members to eliminate bias in evaluation.
- Committee members were grouped into teams of 2-3 members.
- Each committee member reviewed at least 275 applications.

## **The Results**

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- After evaluations were complete, the top applicant scores for each team were combined to create the final list of awardees.
- Kent County awardee results:
  - 62 total grant awards
  - \$615,000 in funding
  - 22 (35%) minority and/or woman-owned
  - 13 (21%) non-profits
- Grant awards were announced on May 1, 2020.
- Total time from application deadline to awards: 30 days.
- Total time allocated to the program: 650+ hours (approx. \$72,500).
- Total internal project team: 11 (2 primary, 9 secondary resources).

### Michigan Small Business Relief Program: Grants

**Goal:** Provide immediate grant support for businesses hardest hit by COVID-19.

**Funding:** Michigan Small Business Relief Program

**Funding Amount:** \$10 million

**Funding Availability:** On or about April 1, 2020

**Overview:** Provide up to \$10 million in grant funding to one or more local economic development organizations or nonprofit economic development organizations to provide grants up to \$10,000 to support certain small businesses statewide that have realized a significant financial hardship as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak. Amount per lead local economic development partner will be determined based on potential impact per region.

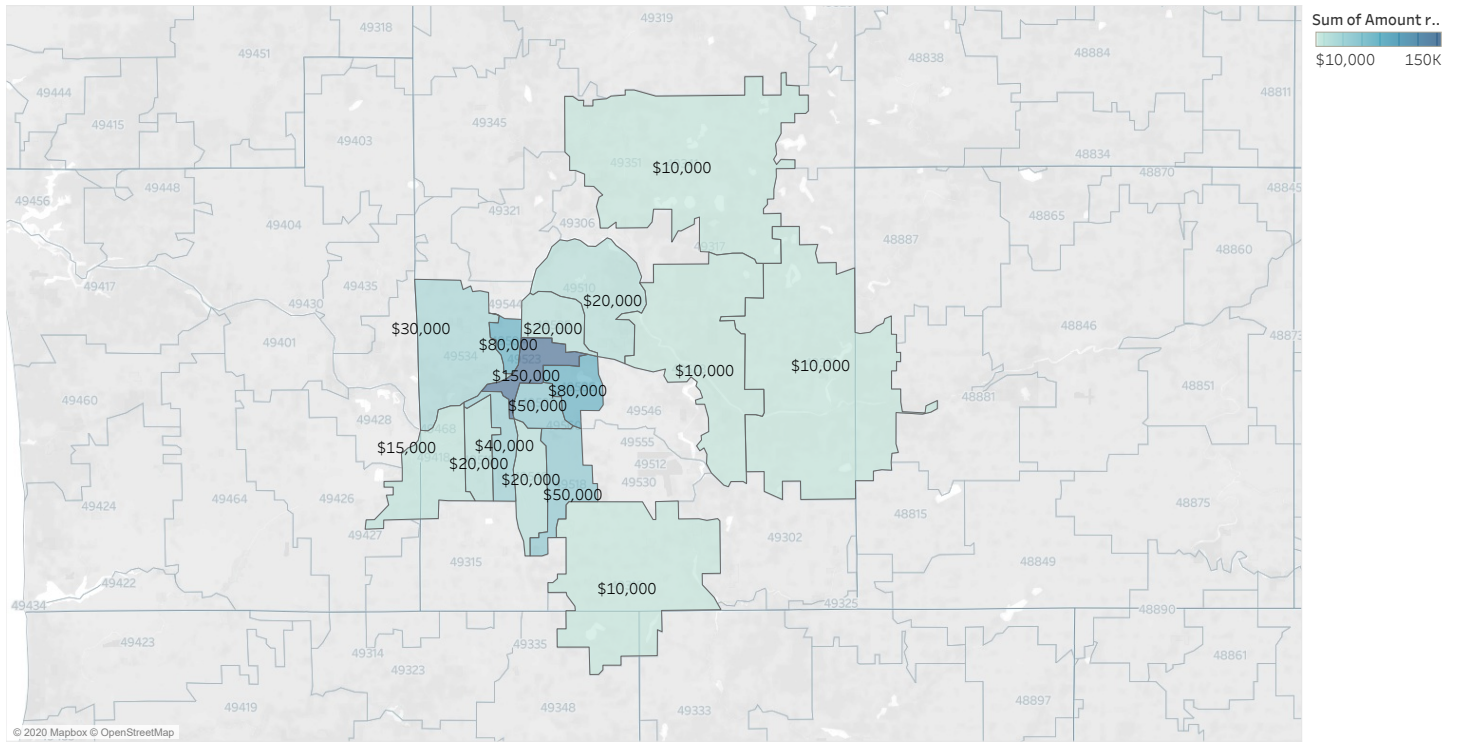
**Eligible Businesses:** Eligible Business means a business that:

- The company is in an industry outlined in Executive Order 2020-9, or any subsequent Executive Order of similar intent (“EO”), or demonstrates it is otherwise affected by the COVID-19 outbreak, that meets one or more of the following: provides support to impacted employees, is located in a downtown district or high impact corridor or has 50 employees or less, or is a company that provides services to companies outlined in the EO and requires additional employees to support to companies or employees impacted by EO;
- The company has 50 employees or less;
- The company needs working capital to support payroll expenses, rent, mortgage payments, utility expenses, or other similar expenses that occur in the ordinary course of business; and
- The company is able to demonstrate an income loss as a result of the EO, or the COVID-19 outbreak.

**Eligible Uses:** Grants may be used for working capital to support payroll expenses, rent, mortgage payments, utility expenses, or other similar expenses that occur in the ordinary course of business

Additional Information can be found online at [michiganbusiness.org/covid19/](https://michiganbusiness.org/covid19/)

# All Groups - Grants (finalists) (map) - by Zip Code



## All Groups - Grants (finalists) (table) - by Zip Code

Zipcode	
49301	\$10,000
49316	\$10,000
49331	\$10,000
49341	\$10,000
49418	\$15,000
49503	\$150,000
49504	\$80,000
49505	\$20,000
49506	\$80,000
49507	\$50,000
49508	\$50,000
49509	\$40,000
49519	\$20,000
49525	\$20,000
49534	\$30,000
49548	\$20,000
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$615,000</b>