

## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE \_\_\_\_\_

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### SUFFOLK SMALL BUSINESSES RECEIVE RELIEF

SUFFOLK, Virginia (July 13, 2020) – The Suffolk Economic Development Authority (EDA) has completed the first distribution of its **COVID-19 Small Business Assistance Grant Program**. Almost \$200,000 was dispersed to eighty-five independent businesses in Suffolk. Using Virginia Governor Executive Order – 53 as the main qualifier, businesses with a physical commercial presence, who have less than fifty employees and are in good standing with the City, were some of the requirements for applying. Grants were provided to assist with operating expenses as the Order and operating restrictions limited certain business operations.

The application process closed on July 1<sup>st</sup>, and grant payments will begin being dispersed this week.

Additional COVID-19 Small Business Assistance Grants are in the works throughout 2020.

For the business community to stay abreast of announcements such as these, it is recommended they follow the Suffolk Economic Development Department on social media. The Department is listed as “YesSuffolk” on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn. Additional small business support can be found on [YesSuffolk.com](http://YesSuffolk.com) under the tab “COVID-19 Resources”.

For questions regarding the grant, contact Gregory Byrd, see contact info above.

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