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Dear Residents of SD-44:

I hope that you and your family are staying safe and healthy. In this newsletter you will find information on new small business grants that are expected to be available soon, legislative updates relative to the governor's emergency declaration, COVID-19 testing updates, and funding awarded to the 44th district to increase family advocacy services throughout Montgomery County.

My staff and I are always available by phone at 610-792-2137 and by email at senatormuth@pasenate.com to help answer your questions and provide you with the resources that you need. We will also continue to share new information through E-blasts, social media and on [website](#) as we receive it to ensure you, your family, schools, and small businesses have the most up-to-date information.

Sincerely,

Senator Katie Muth

Coming Soon: Small Business Grants

The COVID-19 public health crisis has impacted every Pennsylvanian in every community. The recently enacted state budget includes \$2.6 billion in federal stimulus funds through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES).

As a result, the Department of Community and Economic Development was allocated \$225 million for COVID-19 relief for small businesses through a distribution to [Community Development Financial Institutions](#) (CDFIs).

PA SMALL BUSINESS GRANTS

\$225 MILLION VIA THE FEDERAL CARES ACT

NEW

TO BE ELIGIBLE YOUR BUSINESS MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS

- 25 OR FEWER EMPLOYEES
- OPERATING AS OF FEB. 15, 2020
- LOSSES AS A RESULT OF COVID-19 STAY AT HOME ORDERS

ELIGIBLE BUSINESSES MUST APPLY THROUGH AN ELIGIBLE CDFI.

EMAIL SENATORMUTH@PASENATE.COM AND WE WILL SEND YOU A LIST OF CDFI'S ALONG WITH CONTACT INFO

Uses

DCED will distribute the funding to the Pennsylvania CDFI Network, which will then administer the funding in the form of:

- Grants to cover operating expenses for the duration of the shutdown and the transition period to re-opening
- Grants to cover technical assistance, including training and guidance, for business owners as they stabilize and relaunch their businesses
- Debt payment relief for CDFI Pennsylvania borrowers
- Loan loss reserves for CDFIs

The funds will be distributed in three ways:

- Main Street Business Revitalization Program: \$100 million
- Historically Disadvantaged Business Revitalization Program: \$100 million
- Loan payment deferment and loss reserve: \$25 million

Eligibility

All businesses [must apply through an eligible CDFI](#) and meet the program requirements which, at a minimum, include:

- The business was in operation on February 15, 2020 and if required paid income taxes to the state and federal government, as reported on individual or business tax returns
- COVID-19 has had an adverse economic impact and makes this grant request necessary to support the ongoing operations of the applicant
- The grant will be used to cover COVID-19 related costs
- During the period beginning on June 1, 2020 and ending on December 31, 2020, the applicant has not and will not receive another grant under this state program

How to Apply

Eligible businesses [must apply through an eligible CDFI](#).

My Statement on HR836 to Preserve the Governor's Emergency Declaration

Last week, I was a [NO vote on HR836](#), which effectively would end the Governor's emergency disaster declaration. This resolution would NOT affect the Secretary of Health's order including business closure orders, building safety orders, and business safety orders, which therefore ultimately means that the phased reopening plan associated with those orders would remain in place.



(Click photo to view my full remarks.)

I have heard from many of my constituents on both sides of this issue and I appreciate the dialogue that we have been able to have to address the many concerns that the pandemic has had on all Pennsylvanians. I was not willing to sacrifice aid that the emergency disaster proclamation affords the state from the federal government, which aims to help Pennsylvanians and businesses by means of:

Unemployment Compensation eligibility requirements and employer relief from charges.

Property tax relief.

Educational tax credit waivers.

Certification requirements under the public-school code and child protective services law.

As a result of ending the disaster proclamation, we received no assurance that the state would continue to be eligible for federal public and individual disaster assistance, and any additional state funding available through General Fund dollars. I will continue to work with the administration to advocate for the southeastern regions fair share of relief aid to help hardworking Pennsylvanians and businesses that have suffered the most, while we all work together to take responsible precautions to limit a resurgence of the virus.

Ending Systemic Racism and Oppression

[Last week](#), I urged my colleagues in the Senate to take urgent action to pass legislative solutions to end systemic and institutional racism and oppression. For decades, black and brown communities have suffered and they need to be heard.

The PA General Assembly has tremendous power to enact legislative solutions that could change lives, but instead, the willful ignorance and disregard for black and brown lives continues to plague our democracy. Racism is truly undermining and crumbling our society.

The [PA Senate Democratic Caucus](#) has introduced a number of bills relative to police reform including [No consent in custody](#), Banning chokeholds and positional asphyxia, [Training and accountability](#), and Requiring civilian police review boards to name a few. You can learn more about the [legislative package](#) by clicking [here](#).

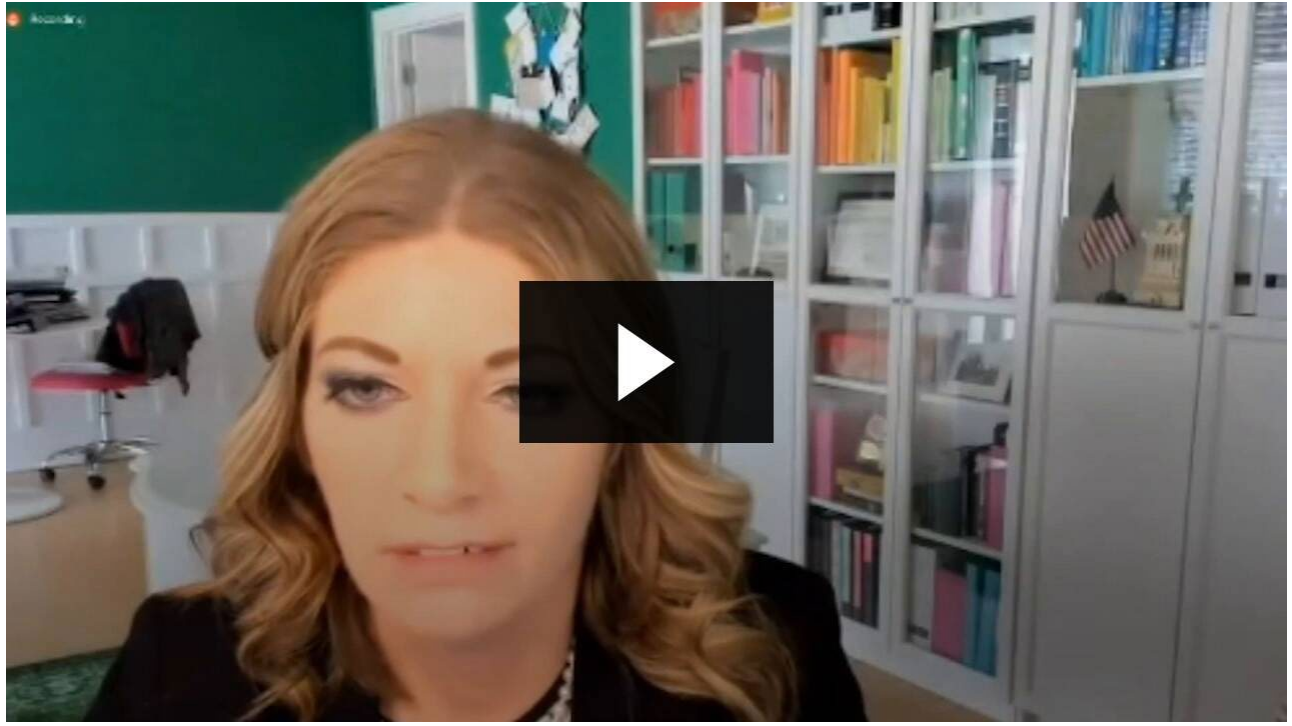
Black lives MATTER, but MATTER is the MINIMUM.

Black lives are respected.

Black lives are worthy.

Black lives are valued.

Black lives are needed.



(Click above to watch my full statement.)

COVID-19 Testing for Chester and Montgomery County Residents



Chester County

Chester County has expanded Nasal Swab Testing for COVID-19 to 7 locations throughout Chester County.

Health Insurance is run, but there is no out of pocket expense for individuals with financial constraints.

Everyone is able to get this test.

[Registration is required HERE.](#)

Montgomery County

Residents no longer need to show symptoms to get tested at one of [Montgomery County Office of Public Health's](#) FREE COVID-19 testing sites. Anyone can get tested.

For more info, visit montcopa.org/covid-19, or call 610-631-3000 between 8am-3pm.

If you don't live near these sites, [click here](#) to find testing near you.

\$247,097 Funding for Montgomery County and SD-44

Congratulations to [Family Service of Montgomery County](#) and [Montgomery County CAC](#) on receiving highly sought after grants from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency.

This grant will be used to increase family advocacy services for victims and broaden

Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency

FAMILY SERVICE OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PA

\$147,100

MONTGOMERY COUNTY CAC

\$99,997

KATIE MUTH
PENNSYLVANIA STATE SENATOR

How to Stay Informed

Below is an extensive list of information, statistics, and resources to ensure you stay up-to-date with any changes happening due to COVID-19.

Check out [my website](#) for a comprehensive list of resources or one of the helpful site below.

Pennsylvania Department of Health

- The PA DoH [Daily COVID-19 report](#). Updated regularly throughout the day.
- Follow the PA Health Department on [Twitter](#).
- Follow them on [Facebook](#).

U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- [Track confirmed cases in the US](#). (This site is updated weekdays at noon and shows numbers that were current as of 4 p.m. the previous day.)
- CDC provided information regarding "[What you should know about COVID-19](#)"
- Follow the CDC on [Twitter](#).
- Follow the CDC on [Facebook](#).
- Learn how best to [prevent "community transition"](#) with specific details on what to do before, during, and after outbreaks.

World Health Organization

- Learn what's happening Worldwide with the [WHO's Daily report](#). The most recent report is located at the top of the page. It includes confirmed case and death tallies.
- Additional COVID-19 information is provided on their [website](#).
- Stay informed on [Twitter](#).
- Follow their [Facebook](#) page.

Be sure to check out the complete list of information, data, and resources available to those in:

[Berks County](#)

[Chester County](#)

[Montgomery County](#)



SIGN UP FOR TEXT ALERTS
from

KATIE MUTH
PENNSYLVANIA STATE SENATOR

Submit your mobile number to stay up-to-date with the latest events and happenings from Senator Katie Muth sent right to your phone.



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