

In the News

Contact: Robbie-Ann McPherson ECIDA Marketing & Communications Director 716.856.6525 ext. 125 office 310.433.7443 cell

June 24, 2021

ECIDA Board approves COVID PPE reimbursement grants for Five small businesses, totaling \$33,249.18 Grant program has awarded \$700,938.63 to 110 small businesses in Erie County

Buffalo, NY— The Erie County Industrial Development Agency (ECIDA) Board of Directors approved PPE reimbursement grants for five small businesses Wednesday, totaling \$33,249.18.

The ECIDA's COVID 19 Disaster Emergency Grant program offers qualified small businesses up to \$10,000 in reimbursement for documented PPE expenses, including modifications, equipment, and sanitizing items.

"We started this program in August of 2020," **said ECIDA President and CEO John Cappellino**. "The idea was to offer small businesses some relief for the unexpected expenses related to PPE requirements. We had a first round of \$500,000, which we had awarded by February, and the Board approved a second round of \$500,000, which we are about halfway through as of June. Clearly there is still a great need for small business economic relief, and our Board recognized the importance of helping these employers recover," said Cappellino.

The five businesses approved for grants at the ECIDA's June 23 Board meeting were:

@Eleven Wings Cuisine	Buffalo	\$3 <mark>,</mark> 667.50	PPE, installation of fixtures
ASA Janitorial Services	Buffalo	\$10,000.00	PPE only
Miss Barbara's School of Dance	Buffalo	\$2,285.74	PPE, Installation of fixtures
Fit Fuel, LLC	Tonawanda	\$7 <i>,</i> 593.04	PPE only
BurgerIM	Buffalo	\$9,702.90	Installation of fixtures

Qualified businesses must meet the following <u>minimum qualifications</u> to apply for the PPE reimbursement grant program:

- Located in Erie County/except Amherst, Clarence, Concord, Hamburg or Lancaster
- For-profit or nonprofit business with 50 or fewer employees
- Applicant must meet at least <u>one</u> of the following:
 - ✓ Located in a Highly Distressed Census Tract
 - ✓ Minority-owned
 - \checkmark Women-owned
 - \checkmark Veteran-owned

For more information please visit www.ecidany.com/covid-grant-pre-qualifier

###

The Erie County Industrial Development Agency is a public benefit corporation

sanctioned by the State of New York to offer tax incentives to qualified businesses, and is dedicated to furthering economic development, adaptive reuse of qualified properties, job creation and ensuring a thriving business environment in Erie County. The staff of the ECIDA are not employees of the City of Buffalo, the County of Erie, or the State of New York. The ECIDA does not receive operating funds from taxpayer revenues. The ECIDA receives its operating funds by collecting fees from businesses that enter into contracts with the Agency, from investments, and from loan fees. For more information, visit <u>www.ecidany.com</u>