



The City of Raytown begins accepting applications October 1, 2020 for the Raytown CARES Act Small Business Grant and Individual Assistance Programs. The programs aid Raytown businesses and residents who have been negatively impacted by COVID-19 and can benefit from CARES Act funds to help maintain their businesses and household-related bills.

The Raytown CARES Act Small Business Grant and CARES Act Individual Assistance Programs, have been created to utilize Jackson County CARES Acts funds, approved by the Raytown Board of Aldermen on August 18, 2020. These programs are intended to aid Raytown businesses and residents with eligible expenses incurred March 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020, as they begin to recover from the financial hardships caused by the pandemic. "The Board of Aldermen and I are dedicated to helping our citizens through these funds," said Mayor Michael McDonough.

The City of Raytown recognizes that one of its greatest assets is local businesses and the City of Raytown's CARES Act Small Business Grant program, with \$200,000 in funding, is focused on offering eligible reimbursements to local businesses for expenses they have incurred to mitigate the effects of COVID-19. Raytown business owners may receive reimbursements up to \$5,000 or up to \$10,000, depending on the business type, for expenses such as utility payments and the purchase of personal protective equipment and remote access equipment. "Our goal is to help Raytown businesses maintain their economic viability during these extreme times. The CARES Act Small Business Grant program might be the influx of funding that's needed to help our businesses withstand for the future," said City Administrator Damon Hodges. Eligible businesses may apply for CARES Act Small Business Grant funds from October 1 through October 30, 2020.

Raytown residents who have past due rent, mortgage and utility payments may apply beginning October 1, 2020 for CARES Act Individual Assistance. The City has allocated \$200,000 in CARES Act funds specifically to aid residents who are experiencing financial hardship due to COVID-19. Community partners, Raytown REAP and HOPE Network, will assist the City of Raytown with the program and fund distributions which will be sent directly to eligible residents, landlords, mortgage lenders and utility companies. "Some people are now dealing with the unfortunate casualties of the pandemic - loss of income, employment or battling back from the physical effects of the virus - and we are committed to extending a hand to hopefully make life a little easier," said Mayor McDonough.

For information about the Raytown CARES Act Small Business Grant and Individual Assistance Programs, visit the program website at www.RaytownCARES.com. For media inquiries, contact Schylon Kubic, Parson + Associates, LLC at schylon@parsonkc.com or 816-519-0323.