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Updated	Category	Organization	Resource	Description	Website	Phone	Email
3.24.2020	Communities	US Dept. of Labor Employment and Training Administration	COVID-19 or Other Public Health Emergencies and the Fair Labor Standards Act Questions and Answers	Answers to questions on fair labor standards during this time of the Coronavirus For additional information, visit our Wage and Hour Division Website: https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd	https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/flsa/pandemic	1-866-487-9243	
3.24.2020	Small Businesses	SBTDC - Small Business and Technology Development Center	First Responder Business Recovery	Helping businesses prepare for and recover from disasters. SBTDC has been identified as a “first responder” for business recovery in the state’s disaster recovery plan. Services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessing the financial impact on your business • Reconstructing financial statements • Preparing your SBA disaster loan application • Exploring options with creditors 	http://www.sbtcd.org/	919-515-6147	aoviva@ncsu.edu
3.24.2020	Small Businesses	Small Business Center Network	Business Support	General Business Counseling; Business Continuity and Strategic Planning; Loan Application Assistance; Financial Projections and Cash Flow Management; Marketing Assistance; Provision of Resource Information and Referral to Appropriate Agencies and Sources of Assistance	https://www.ncsbc.net/		shawwa@nccommunitycolleges.edu
3.24.2020	Small Businesses	UNC School of Government	Emergency Loans	This is a resource guide for communities on how to establish emergency loans for small businesses. It was published on March 20, 2020.	https://canons.sog.unc.edu/local-government-emergency-loans-for-small-businesses-contracting-with-financial-institutions-for-loan-administration/		

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3.24.2020	Small Businesses	Carolina Small Business Development Fund	Business Resources	Carolina Small Business Development Fund provides the tools and guidance that allow entrepreneurs to achieve their dreams. 1. Needs Assessment completed prior to customized action plan. 2. If you would like to request one-on-one technical assistance, you can complete our Request for Counseling form. 3. Take a look at our trainings and seminars.	https://carolinasmallbusiness.org/	919-803-1437	services@carolinasmallbusiness.org
3.24.2020	Small Businesses	NC Dept. of Commerce Division of Workforce Solutions	Business Edge (layoff aversion)	Layoff aversion assessment and solution recommendations. NC-based companies, 20-250 employees, manufacturing industry sector	https://www.nccommerce.com/business/workforce-development/consulting-services-staffing-business-edge		DWS_BusinessServices@nccommerce.com
3.24.2020	Small Businesses	NC Small Business and Technology Development Center (SBTDC)	Coronavirus Resource	Small business service providers can help small businesses navigate COVID-19	http://www.sbtdc.org/coronavirus/		
3.24.2020	Small Businesses	Ready	Crisis Communications Plan	When an emergency occurs, the need to communicate is immediate. If business operations are disrupted, customers will want to know how they will be impacted. Regulators may need to be notified and local government officials will want to know what is going on in their community. Employees and their families will be concerned and want information. Neighbors living near the facility may need information—especially if they are threatened by the incident. All of these “audiences” will want information before the business has a chance to begin communicating.	https://www.ready.gov/business/implementation/crisis		

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3.24.2020	Small Businesses	NC Rural Center	Disaster Recovery	Through their partnerships with Thread Capital, Golden LEAF Foundation, SBTDC, BLNC, and SBCN, the NC Rural Center has been able to gather financial resources, help disseminate information, host disaster recovery centers for the SBA, and provide disaster recovery bridge loans to small businesses as they wait for more permanent financing to come through. Now, with the partnership of, Thread Capital, the Rural Center has moved its focus from direct recovery lending to being a critical facilitator of all things disaster recovery in North Carolina. The team works with other organizations across the state to centralize resources for disaster recovery, making them more manageable and far-reaching for those affected.	https://www.ncruralcenter.org/engagement/disaster-recovery/		barry@ncruralcenter.org
3.24.2020	Small Businesses	FEMA SBA	Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs)/ SBA Disaster Loan Assistance	SBA has approved the request for North Carolina's disaster declaration. Eligible applicants may now apply for economic injury disaster loans (EIDLs) as a result of the ongoing effects of COVID-19. All 100 counties in NC are eligible	https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2Fela%2FLoanApplication%2FStartApplication&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery	1-800-659-2955	disastercustomerservice@sba.gov
3.24.2020	Small Businesses	EDPNC	EDPNC - COVID-19 Business Relief Resources	EDPNC has developed a web page compiling resources available to assist businesses through this pandemic.	https://edpnc.com/nc-business-relief-resources-covid-19/		
3.24.2020	Small Businesses	Division of Employment Security	Employer Call Center	Employers should contact the Employer Call Center with questions or assistance regarding temporary attached claims, taxes, List of Charges/Potential Charges, sign in and password resets.	https://des.nc.gov/	866-278-3822	des.tax.customerservice@nccommerce.com
3.24.2020	Small Businesses	Facebook	Facebook Business Resource Hub: How to minimize business disruptions during emergencies	Facebook for Businesses is a resource small businesses can use which includes tips, guides & toolkits including a resilience toolkit, quick action guide and online courses on how to communicate with your customers via Facebook live & other outlets. Downloadable tools	https://www.facebook.com/business/learn/lessons/how-to-help-minimize-business-disruption-during-emergencies		

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3.24.2020	Small Businesses	Facebook	Facebook Small Business Grants Program	Facebook is offering \$100 million in cash grants and ad credits for up to 30,000 eligible small businesses in over 30 countries where we operate. The program can help in the following ways: keep your workforce going strong, help with your rent costs, connect with more customers, cover operational costs. We'll begin taking applications in the coming weeks. In the meantime, you can sign up to receive more information when it becomes available on the link.	https://www.facebook.com/business/boost/grants		
3.24.2020	Small Businesses	FEMA	FEMA Public Assistance Fact Sheet	FEMA fact sheet on eligible emergency protective measures for COVID-19.	https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/19/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-eligible-emergency-protective-measures		
3.24.2020	Small Businesses	McKinsey & Company	Impact of COVID 19 on Business		https://www.mckinsey.com/business-functions/risk/our-insights/covid-19-implications-for-business		
3.24.2020	Small Businesses	Deloitte	Info on cash flow during a crisis	Ways businesses can mitigate damage to their businesses during a crisis	https://www2.deloitte.com/global/en/pages/about-deloitte/articles/managing-cash-flow-during-period-of-crisis.html		
3.24.2020	Small Businesses	CDC	Interim Guidance: Public Health Communicators Get Your Community Ready for Coronavirus Disease 2019	This interim guidance is based on what is currently known about the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will update this interim guidance as needed and as additional information becomes available.	https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/public-health-communicators-get-your-community-ready.html		
3.24.2020	Small Businesses	KIVA	Micro Loans for small Businesses Peer to peer lending	Expanded eligibility: More businesses in the US will be eligible for a Kiva loan. Larger loans: The maximum loan on the Kiva platform will increase from \$10,000 to \$15,000. Grace period: New borrowers may access a grace period of up to 6 months for greater financial flexibility.	https://www.kiva.org/blog/support-local-businesses-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic		

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3.24.2020	Small Businesses	VAE Raleigh	NC Artists Relief Fund	This fund has been created to support creative individuals who have been financially impacted by gig cancellations due to the outbreak of COVID-19. 100% of donated funds will go directly to artists and art presenters in NC	https://vaeraleigh.org/artist-relief-fund		
3.24.2020	Small Businesses	NC Broadband Office	NC Broadband Office	Resources for communities on broadband resources during this time.	https://www.ncbroadband.gov/covid19broadband/		
3.24.2020	Small Businesses	Facebook	NC Center for Nonprofits	Links for multiple resources. Great info for nonprofits and others will also benefit from links. Well organized.	https://www.ncnonprofits.org/resources/pandemicresources		
3.24.2020	Small Businesses	NC Center for Nonprofits	NC Department of Public Safety Essential Business Registration	Businesses should email beoc@ncdps.gov and provide the following: 1) Business name 2) Point of contact including name, email, phone and address 3) Nature of the business and why operations are critical 4) Business Website			
3.24.2020	Small Businesses	NC Emergency Management FEMA Public Assistance Hotline	NC Emergency Management FEMA Public Assistance Hotline	The NC Division of Emergency Management has stood up a COVID-19 Public Assistance Hotline to help local governments answer questions about FEMA Public Assistance for COVID-19. Applicants (local governments and eligible non-profits) are encouraged to call the number or send an email to get questions answered	919-825-2548	919-825-2548	pahotline@ncem.org
3.24.2020	Small Businesses	NC Dept. of Commerce Division of Workforce Solutions	Intervention Program	Intervention program that helps employers and workers facing layoffs, closures, and other sensitive business actions	https://www.nccommerce.com/business/business-closure-resources/rapid-response-support-workers		DWS_BusinessServices@nccommerce.com
3.24.2020	Small Businesses	NC Chamber of Commerce	Resources for small businesses		https://ncchamber.com/coronavirus-resource-guide-nc-business/		
3.24.2020	Small Businesses	NC Chamber of Commerce	Resources for small businesses		https://ncchamber.com/coronavirus-resource-guide-nc-business/coronavirus-resources-for-small-business/		
3.24.2020		UC Chamber of Commerce	Resources for small businesses		https://www.uschamber.com/coronavirus?iesrc=ctr		

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3.24.2020		CISA	Risk management for COVID 19	Help executives and businesses think through physical, supply chain and cybersecurity issues	https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/20_0306_cisa_insights_risk_management_for_novel_coronavirus.pdf		
3.24.2020		The Frankie Lemmon Foundation	Triangle Restaurant Workers Relief Fund	This fund is open to those who have experience wage disruption or lay offs in the Triangle restaurant industry due to coronavirus-based restaurant closures, including wait staff, bartenders, hosts, managers, delivery drivers, cooks, catering staff, dishwashers, and other restaurant and bar workers.	http://frankielemmonschool.org/restaurantworkersrelieffund/	919-821-7436	info@frankielemmonschool.org
3.24.2020		UNC School of Government -	UNC School of Government - FEMA Procurement Questions and Answers	COVID-19 has arrived in North Carolina and units of local government across the state are facing tough questions as they purchase goods and services. This post addresses some of the legal issues under North Carolina law confronting local procurement officials.	https://canons.sog.unc.edu/covid-19-procurement-questions-for-north-carolinas-local-governments/#utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=covid-19-procurement-questions-for-north-carolinas-local-governments		

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3.24.2020		NC Dept. of Commerce Division of Workforce Solutions	WARN -- Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification	<p>The Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act seeks to protect workers, their families, and their communities by requiring employers to provide 60 days' advance notice of certain plant closings and mass layoffs.</p> <p>Businesses that employ at least 100 workers, excluding part-time workers, are required to file a WARN notice if they are preparing to take one of the following actions: 1. Close a plant that affects at least 50 employees during any 30-day period. 2. Conduct a mass layoff of at least 500 employees, or a layoff impacting between 50-499 employees.</p> <p>Visit: https://www.nccommerce.com/documents/sample-warn-letter for a sample WARN notice letter, which will help you complete one for your business, should the need arise.</p>	https://www.nccommerce.com/business/business-closure-resources/file-warn-notice		DWS_BusinessServices@nccommerce.com
3.24.2020	Small Businesses	Golden LEAF & NC Rural Center	Funding	The NC COVID-19 Rapid Recovery Lending Program [r20.rs6.net], funded through the generous support of the Golden LEAF Foundation, will be managed by the Rural Center, with direct lending facilitated by Thread Capital, Business Expansion Funding Corporation (BEFCOR), Carolina Small Business Development Fund, Self-Help Credit Union, Mountain BizWorks, and Natural Capital Investment Fund (NCIF).	https://ncrapidrecovery.org/		
NEW	Small Businesses	US Small Business Administration (SBA)	Business guidance, resources and funding	US SBA has info on loans, funds, business guidance, and other resources	https://www.sba.gov/page/coronavirus-covid-19-small-business-guidance-loan-resources		

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NEW	Communities	US United Way	United Way support of local communities	Funds help with 2-1-1 and other programs that deal with COVID-19	https://www.unitedway.org/recovery/covid19/luw-responses		
NEW	All Categories	FBI Cyber Security		The FBI is the lead federal agency for investigating cyber attacks by criminals, overseas adversaries, and terrorists. The threat is serious—and the COVID-19 can increase that threat.	https://www.fbi.gov/investigate/cyber?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery		
NEW	Communities	NC Department of Health & Human Services (NCDHHS)	Statewide Coronavirus Updates	All North Carolinians can prepare for COVID-19 by getting the latest information directly from reliable sources. The COVID-19 outbreak has been accompanied by a flood of misinformation from unreliable sources. Be thoughtful about what you read or hear about the virus and make sure you are separating rumor from fact before you act.	https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/public-health/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19-response-north-carolina	For COVID-19 questions call 2-1-1	

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NEW	All Categories	Essential Industries Registration Procedures to Produce Medical Equipment	Manufactured NC, Carolina Textile District, EDPNC	<p>*If you are an industry/manufacturing facility and interested in assisting with producing medical supplies- this is how you can register to participate.*</p> <p>Companies wishing to register for the essential industries can register by visiting any of the links below. They can also email NCDPS with the required information as stated below. Keep in mind that everything is so fluid that it could all change:</p> <p>https://www.manufacturednc.com/ [manufacturednc.com] www.carolinatextiledistrict.com https://hub.bio.org/ [hub.bio.org]</p> <p>NC Emergency Management has a process to vet businesses and allow them the ability to move IF an emergency or shelter in place should their usual operations warrant such. Businesses should email: beoc@ncdps.gov. In the email, they should provide the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Business name 2. Point of Contact including: Name, Email, Address, Phone Number 3. Nature of their business and why they are critical to continue operations 4. Business website 	https://www.manufacturednc.com/		
NEW	All Categories	JPMorgan Chase and Co.	Forthcoming Grant/Loan Opportunities	<p>JPMorgan Chase announced a \$50 million global philanthropic fund that will support COVID-19 healthcare, small business, and recovery efforts.</p> <p>The firm is going to \$5 million to U.S. to support vulnerable and underserved small businesses.</p>	https://www.jpmorganchase.com/corporate/news/pr/jpmc-makes-50mm-philanthropic-investment-to-address-impacts-of-covid-19.htm		

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NEW	Communities	NC East Alliance	Centralized Business Information List for Eastern NC Communities	During this COVID-19 Situation we are encouraging all to support local businesses. Many communities have created social media groups or websites to keep track of businesses still open and what services they are offering. Some of these are being created as a direct response to the current pandemic and some have already existed. We are compiling this ongoing list for eastern NC by county of what websites and resources are available. If there is a resource you would like to see listed, please contact Trey Goodson (goodson@nceast.org).	https://nceast.org/overview/support-local/		
NEW	All Categories	Manufactured in NC (MNC)	Utilizing NC Manufacturing to assist with supply chain disruptions	If you have run into supply chain disruptions check out ManufacturedNC to identify the manufacturer or supplier you need.	https://www.manufacturednc.com/		
NEW	Communities	United Way	United Way Worldwide has established the COVID-19 Community Response and Recovery Fund to assist vulnerable communities access critical information and basic services.	United Way Worldwide's COVID-19 Community Response and Recovery Fund supports communities by helping local United Ways respond, and bolstering 211, the go-to information resource in times of crisis. Calls to 211 for help with basics have risen more than 300% in some areas, and are expected to top 27 million calls over the next six months. That's more than twice the usual call volume that 211 fields in a typical year.	https://www.unitedway.org/recovery/covid19?utm_source=press&utm_medium=web&utm_campaign=covid19&utm_content=learnmore#		

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NEW	All Categories	Biotechnology Innovation Organization (BIO)	A hub that enables users to post requests for urgently needed items and announce the availability of supplies and capacity.	As we face challenges in this unprecedented time, the Biotechnology Innovation Organization (BIO) want to ensure critical research and development programs can continue. To accomplish this, BIO created the Coronavirus Hub to connect companies with capacity and resources with those that need them. This new hub will enable users to post requests for urgently needed items and announce the availability of supplies and capacity. The portal connects in real-time through customized and searchable postings. Thank you to our partner, Healthcare Ready, for helping facilitate connections for supplies and resources.	https://hub.bio.org/		
NEW	All Categories	The Carolina Textile District	Identifying manufacturers willing to help with production of finished PPE or materials	The Carolina Textile District is a member governed and driven network of values aligned textile manufacturers in North and South Carolina and beyond. The CTD, which is an enterprise of The Industrial Commons, hosts workshops and provides contacts and resources that help both new and established companies grow and thrive, and is invested in creating a new and dynamic textile industry that values the worker, the environment, and the community.	https://www.carolinatextiledistrict.com/covid19-response		
NEW	All Categories	NC Emergency Management	How to identify if a business is classified as "Essential" or "Non Essential".	Is your business "Essential" or "Non Essential"? NC Emergency Management has a process to vet businesses, should a shelter in place go into effect. To make the determination, businesses should email beoc@ncdps.gov the following information: (1) Business Name (2) Point of Contact - Name, Email, Phone Number, Address (3) Nature of Business (4) Why the Business is Critical to Continue Operations (5) Business Website	https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/public-health/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19-response-north-carolina/businesses-employers		beoc@ncdps.gov

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NEW	Communities	PANGAEA ISP	Increasing free Wi-Fi access	PANGAEA has upgraded the bandwidth limits and extended the usage periods on our free public Wi-Fi systems in Polk and Rutherford Counties	https://pangaea.us		freewifisupport@e-polk.org
NEW	All Categories	Carolina Small Business Development Fund	Small Business COVID-19 Impact and Response	Theory to Practice is an occasional blog series which explores the intersection of economic development research and current issues of debate within the practitioner community. In this post Jamie McCall, CSBDF's Vice President of Policy and Research, explores how economic "black swan" events like the COVID-19 pandemic might impact the small business community.	https://carolinasmallbusiness.org/2020/03/theory-to-practice-covid-pandemic/		
NEW	Small Businesses	NC SBA	FAQ for SBA Loans	Patrick Rodriguez, SBA senior area manager, recently held an online webinar providing a high-level overview of the SBA disaster loan program. Here are some answers to the questions that you may have:	https://www.wraltechwire.com/2020/03/26/have-questions-about-disaster-assistance-loans-to-nc-small-businesses-here-are-some-answers/		
NEW	Restaurants	NC Restaurant and Lodging Association Foundation 501 (c)(3)	NC Restaurant Workers Relief Fund	The NC Restaurant Workers Relief Fund has been established and will be managed through the North Carolina Restaurant and Lodging Association Foundation, a 501(c)(3) that has provided financial assistance to hospitality employees and students for more than a decade. The goal of the NC Restaurant Workers Relief fund is to provide immediate financial assistance to the tens of thousands of cooks, servers, dishwashers, housekeepers, and others who live paycheck-to-paycheck, and suddenly find themselves in distress.	https://www.ncrestaurantrelief.com/learn-more		

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NEW	Small Businesses	Natural Capital Investment Fund	Grants	\$1 million in grants from \$5,000 to \$25,000 for businesses in MD, NJ, NC, OH (Brown, Butler, Clermont, Hamilton and Warren Counties), PA, SC, VA, WV and Washington, D.C. that were in operation as of August 1, 2019. Businesses must have no more than 10 full time employees and no more than \$1 million in annual revenue. Funds are available to businesses that have completed all application components, on a first come – first served basis.	https://www.ncifund.org/what-we-do/truist-ncifund-covid-19-grants?eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=a4b3a3d0-3d1c-4633-ad29-f44da0b9eedc&fbclid=IwAR1Kg0N5Db3kfiPgWJrknutPY6rc8EmOxARpXnQ6y20x8XBt3EjzaSKOckk		

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3.24.2020	Fuquay-Varina - Wake	A group of citizens in Fuquay-Varina began meeting on March 17, 2020 to discuss how small businesses in the town could be helped during this crisis. On March 19, 2020, the group set up an Angel Fund and began receiving large donations. The fund was modeled after the 9/11 Victim Comp Fund. The goal was to raise \$100,000 for small businesses in Fuquay-Varina, affected by the COVID-19 crisis. Most small businesses are within the downtown district. The grant amount is up to \$3,000 per business and can be used towards paying rent and payroll. By March 24, 2020, they had \$78,000 raised. On March 24, 2020, a community wide donation button was placed on Facebook so that the citizens could help them reach their goal. In the event that the goal is not reached, a local philanthropist has agreed to make up the difference. The grant application has 4 questions and then 1 ask. 1. How has your business reacted to this crisis? 2. How have you supported your staff? 3. How have you supported this community in the past? 4. How do you plan to use these funds? ASK: Will you agree to pay it forward, a year from now, by donating to this fund in the event of future disasters? The morale in downtown Fuquay-Varina is significantly higher because of this outpouring of IMMEDIATE support. The Angel Fund donors realize some of the small business owners will not make it, even with this grant, however they know many will be saved as a result of it, too.	
3.24.2020	McDowell County	Kitsbow Cycling Apparel, a small manufacturer that relocated from California to McDowell County, NC, (just outside Old Fort) in late 2019, is now making personal protective equipment (PPE), drawing more customers to its cycling apparel (see comments on its Facebook post about the switch to making PPE), and hiring. See link (in next column) to WLOS article about the company's switch to making PPE. The NC Department of Commerce published a press release announcing the relocation of Kitsbow to McDowell County and its One NC Fund grant on August 28, 2019.	https://wlos.com/news/local/companies-in-the-mountains-produce-face-masks-to-help-ease-covid-19-concerns
NEW	Watauga County	Watauga Opportunities, Inc has over 25 years of experience specializing in manufacturing disposable health care products. They package, seal, thermoform, and assemble a wide variety of medical products (basins, trays, cell scrapers, collection tubes, and kit packs). Watauga Opportunities is now assembling and packaging the sample collection vials used in the COVID -19 test kits, the one with red cap you see often on the news when showing testing sites. The company received an order last Friday (3/20) to assemble and package 750,000 units for national distribution. Watauga Opportunities' work plays a vital role in supporting the testing and collection efforts of diagnostic and research facilities such as the Centers for Disease Control, the National Institute of Health, and LabCorp. With a diverse array of state-of-the-art mechanical and electronic equipment and over 22,000 square feet of manufacturing and warehouse space, Watauga Opportunities has lent its name and reputation to keeping the COVID-19 test kit supply chain moving to facilities across the nation.	
NEW	Watauga County	Wine to Water, Ransom Pub, and Vincent Properties have teamed up to serve the servers! They have organized a food relief program available for local families in the service industry, who are undoubtedly affected by the restaurant closings. These "CARE.BOXES" are filled with nutritious, balanced, and wholesome meals, including fruits, vegetables, and healthy proteins and made available by a food voucher. Distribution details, volunteer opportunities, and donation requests found here: https://www.facebook.com/ransompubboone/	https://www.facebook.com/ransompubboone/
NEW	Watauga County	#KeepBooneHealthy is a locally run informational YouTube channel and Facebook page providing important updates from all sectors of the community during the COVID-19 Coronavirus. Please share this page and message them with any concerns or questions. Use hashtag #KeepBooneHealthy https://www.facebook.com/keepboonehealthy/	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdGwJAqnsoy8H8JPTekFyKA

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NEW	Gaston County/Statewide	Amid warnings of an impending shortage of protective equipment for medical staff, a Gastonia-based textile company is organizing a national effort to ramp up production of face masks for healthcare workers. Parkdale Mills Inc., one of the country's largest yarn spinners, is working with companies like Hanesbrand, Fruit of the Loom, and six others to build a manufacturing supply chain for the masks, the National Council of Textile Organizations (NCTO) said in a press release. Production is expected to begin on Monday (3/30), the NCTO said, with deliveries starting in the middle of the week. Once at full capacity (in about four to five weeks) the coalition expects to produce up to 10 million face masks per week. Read more here: https://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/coronavirus/article241413386.html#storylink=cpy	https://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/coronavirus/article241413386.html#storylink=cpy
NEW	Wake Forest - Wake	The Wake Forest Area Chamber is a business development center that exists to serve our members. In light of COVID-19, we are compelled to support Wake Forest area small businesses. We are creating an emergency relief fund through the Wake Forest Area Chamber Foundation (the 501(c)(3) arm of the Chamber) to help Chamber member businesses and their employees. Our goal is to raise \$50,000 to support as many Wake Forest Chamber member businesses as possible. Here's how it works: 1. Every dollar donated is tax-deductible and will go to a small business that is a member of the Wake Forest Chamber. Donations are accepted until April 30th so we can disburse needed funds to our local businesses! 2. Businesses are invited to apply for up to \$5,000 in relief. 3. Businesses must be Chamber members and may apply by completing the short application 4. Business applications are due by April 15th and will be reviewed by a committee.	https://www.facebook.com/donate/514473322830509/10158219933994592/
NEW	Lexington	Uptown Lexington proposes to put a needs based assistance program into action effective April 1, 2020 with the ability to close the program at any time. This is a first come- first served basis with showing proof of need. Please only request what is absolutely necessary as we are trying to save as many Uptown businesses as possible. Applicants will be required to provide: (1) Revenues for the month requesting from 2019 (2) Current rent (3) Utility invoice for previous month (4) Proof of salaries .Businesses can apply for up to \$5,000 in funding from Uptown Lexington to assist with rent, utilities, salaries, and light inventory. Requests can be made up to 3 times as long as requests do not exceed the max. Funds Available: \$30,000 until July 2020 with possibility of \$25,000 additionally. Repayment of funds will begin in January 2021 with a minimum monthly payment of 5 percent of the principal borrowed. I.E. max amount borrowed \$5,000 = \$250 monthly payment until repaid (20 months). This is a zero percent interest loan to buffer through the economic downturn. Applicant must request funds in writing, providing the aforementioned documentation. All documents will be reviewed by the Executive Committee or another duly formed committee. This program is open to all for-profit businesses within the Uptown District. Each award will be based upon need. Applicant must be willing to enter legal agreement with Uptown Lexington regarding repayment. Payment will be made directly to the business owner.	https://uptownlexingtonnc.com/
NEW	Downtown Salisbury	Downtown Salisbury has added a dedicated COVID-19 page to its NEW website. The page includes: (1) Downtown Salisbury, Inc.'s Response to COVID-19, (2) Business Resources During COVID-19, and (3) Business Specials and Changes in Operations.	https://www.downtownsalisburync.com/support-during-covid-19/
NEW		Outdoor Gear Builders (OGB), an outdoor recreation manufacturing industry group based in western North Carolina, has collaborated with multiple companies to pivot their production from their normal product lines to producing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for the healthcare industry. The previously existing relationships between companies developed through the OGB group allowed the companies to easily collaborate and change their manufacturing processes to meet community needs during the emergency.	https://wlos.com/news/local/companies-in-the-mountains-produce-face-masks-to-help-ease-covid-19-concerns

Note to Users: The references to companies mentioned herein are not intended as endorsements of services.

Updated	Community / County	Example	Website/Link
NEW	Roanoke Rapids	Roanoke Rapids has launched a LOVE LOCAL HEART CAMPAIGN. It is a simple way for the city and businesses to show unity in support of local police, firefighters, EMTs, healthcare workers, and store/restaurant employees that are on the front lines during this unusual situation. For a \$20 fee, a Roanoke Rapids High School senior paints a single 15-inch red heart on the door or window of a sponsoring business. Main Street Roanoke Rapids signed up for 15 slots. Seven of the slots were given to the locally owned restaurants. The remaining eight slots were assigned on a first come, first serve basis. Those that received a heart from Main Street Roanoke Rapids were asked to "pay it forward" and sponsor a neighboring locally owned business. When they sponsor a neighbor, they encourage them to pay it forward and so on. Roanoke Rapids now has 70 businesses in the district with a red heart, thanks to many paying it forward, and the list continues to grow. Although not intended to directly help businesses financially, it has been a huge morale booster and is drawing the community's attention to them.	
NEW	Brevard	Brevard is holding a virtual town hall on 4/1 with up to 500 attendees. Brevard will have representatives with valuable information to share with attendees during this challenging time. Experts will include: (1) a CPA (tax navigation), (2) a local bank representative (loans and business relief), (3) an employment lawyer (Families First Act), and (4) the SBA (loans and business relief). An update will be given on the next steps in emergency response for the community. Brevard has reached out to property owners to get them to waive or defer rent during this time. A local real estate company is doing a gift card challenge that is getting some great traction. A dedicated webpage has also been created to address topics pertaining to COVID-19.	https://www.brevardnc.org/click-here-local-covid-19-response/
NEW	Hendersonville	Hendersonville created a website, www.lovehendo.com . The site was put together by the downtown department, chamber and a few local volunteers and launched within a few days. Businesses can share information on what they are doing, and link to where people can purchase gift cards to help with cash flow. It has social media "shareables" so people could make a profile picture with the logo to share on Facebook Instagram, etc. Within a week the website has had almost 20,000 views. The logo and hashtag are really popular, and the Chamber has worked with a local company to print T-shirts that it will sell (probably with additional merchandise) to raise funds to help local businesses. The site has a resource page that is being updated and an infographic has been created to guide businesses on some of the immediate steps they can take now. A weekly newsletter is also planned as well as an ongoing survey to businesses to gauge what they need.	https://www.lovehendo.com/
NEW	Edenton	Edenton is using its Facebook page to post pictures of downtown businesses that sell online and providing links to the businesses. They have seen a good response.	https://www.facebook.com/Destination-Downtown-Edenton-Inc-181222565256087/?tn=%2Cd%2CP-R&eid=ARC8PZyGMn0mxzsts5ZEc1qcrM0gnwqOucdJRJmv4RorKvT8diqWjcmzFmN0_yPt7bm8IIkC6WJw00

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Updated	Community / County	Example	Website/Link
NEW	Kinston	The Pride of Kinston has five initiatives as a result of COVID-19: (1) a series of videos showcasing each downtown restaurant with business owners detailing how they are adjusting to the new norm with to-go, delivery, and shipping, (2) a series of electronic billboard ads called Downtown Delivers featuring each restaurant downtown for 24 hours as well as postings on social media (one merchant posted a response that she literally cried when she saw it because it meant so much to her to have an actual billboard and that someone cared enough to do it), (3) using other local social media pages, like wereportneusenews.com and wordofmouthkinston, to also circulate the message to support local businesses, (4) a positive, upbeat newsletter about how businesses are stepping up their marketing and encouraging others to do the same to get online business and market beyond local, and (5) heightened activity on social media to promote downtown. Customers are asked to share photos of meals they have purchased and note where they came from.	https://www.facebook.com/prideofkinston/
NEW	Roxboro	Downtown Roxboro is staying in contact with its businesses daily via telephone calls, emails, and social media. It has posted a list of restaurants with information on hours and pickup/delivery options and is working on additional lists for retail. It has also shared with businesses the resource links available from the state and have a conference call with the City Manager, Small Business Director, and Chamber of Commerce on Friday (3/27) to explore options to help at a local level.	https://www.facebook.com/historicroxboro/?ref=br_rs