



“For Immediate Release”

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“The Department of Housing and Community Development Announces Grant Opportunity”
The (TOWN NAME HERE) applies for the microenterprise grant supporting local establishments.

Winchester , MA (9/9/2020)- Applications are now being accepted for the Microenterprise grant which is part of the \$19.6 million award through the federally-funded Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program through the CARES Act of 2020 . The \$4,950,000 grant from the Department of Housing & Community Development was awarded to assist small businesses in 23 cities and towns across the Metropolitan Boston Region, including (**insert your city/ town name here**).

The funding is being utilized to address emergency needs in light of the Coronavirus pandemic. Specifically, the grant award for these 23 communities will be utilized to award individual grants of **up to \$10,000** for microenterprise businesses. A microenterprise is defined as a commercial enterprise that has 5 or fewer employees, 1 or more of whom owns the enterprise and must be a for-profit entity. The town of Winchester will be receiving \$140,000 to support small businesses in the community.

Massachusetts Growth Capital Corporation (“MGCC”) will be helping to administer and oversee the grant program. Applications are available [here](https://massgcc.submittable.com/submit) (<https://massgcc.submittable.com/submit>) and are due by **September 25 th**.

The communities that are part of this coalition include: Ashland, Beverly, Burlington, Canton, Concord, Dedham, Essex, Lexington, Manchester by the Sea, Marlborough, Melrose, Milton, Natick, North Reading, Norwood, Randolph, Reading, Sharon, Southborough, Stoneham, Watertown, Winchester or Woburn.

Businesses interested in applying must fill out the online application only. For questions, please contact **Brian Szekely, Town Planner at bszekely@winchester.us** .