



**MILWAUKEE**  
JEWISH FEDERATION

**Re:** COVID-19 RESOURCE SUMMARY  
**Date:** Monday, June 22 – Friday, June 26, 2020

This memo is a daily synthesis of critical information and trends about the pandemic that are relevant to the Milwaukee Jewish Federation's work of caring for the needs of the Jewish people. While the information is intended for use by MJF leadership, we are also sharing it with other community leaders. If you have questions, please contact Anna Goldstein at [AnnaG@MilwaukeeJewish.org](mailto:AnnaG@MilwaukeeJewish.org) or 414-390-5733.

## Funding Resources

- **Apply for a MMAC Rebuild and Revitalize grant.** MMAC's Community Support Foundation has established a fund to provide **immediate short-term grants to recapitalize businesses damaged** during the recent demonstrations by helping fund physical repairs, replace inventory and meet other pressing needs. Has your business been affected? [Apply today](#). If you have any questions, please contact [Marjorie Yoshida](#) at 414-287-4126.
- The New York Life Foundation and National Alliance for Grieving Children (NAGC) are [offering grants](#) of **\$10,000 - \$25,000 to U.S. nonprofits to serve bereaved youth during the COVID-19 crisis**. The purpose of this program is to provide general operating support to organizations providing bereavement services to children under the age of 25. **Organizations with an annual budget of over \$250,000 can apply for the \$25,000 grants and organizations with an annual budget of over \$100,000 can apply for the \$10,000 grants. Five \$25,000 grants and five \$10,000 grants will be awarded.** Applicants for this grant program must serve at least 50% low-income youth and/or minority children. An organization who is currently receiving a grief reach grant are ineligible to apply. Special consideration will be given to projects that are focused on providing resources for families affected by the opioid crisis with their grant proposal. **Applications are currently open and close Wednesday, July 1 at 8 pm ET.** [Learn more](#) about the Grief Reach Grants program. [Apply online](#) for the Pandemic Relief Fund. Questions may be directed to [Megan Lopez](#) at 866-432-1542.
- The Center for Craft, Creativity and Design's (CCCD) [Craft Future Fund](#) offers grants **of \$5,000 to U.S. Educators for Art-Focused Projects that Relate to COVID-19**. For both ongoing and new projects, the grant application should describe how the project is directly addressing needs due to COVID-19. **The funding source will provide one-time, unrestricted grants to craft-based education projects that seed resilience, foster community, and amplify impact.** Priority will be given to collaborative, grassroots, and community-driven projects that address needs due to COVID-19 within the community/communities identified by the applicant. The Center for Craft acknowledges that new needs are arising daily and encourages applications that will be responsive to these yet undefined constituencies as well. Ultimately the jury will be asked to compose a set of recipients representing a diversity of applicants from a variety

of backgrounds in and outside of academia and representing a range of geographies, materials, communities served, and educational approaches reflected in the applicant pool. Current and past recipients of other grants from the Center for Craft are eligible to apply for support for projects that have not been previously funded by the Center for Craft. **Institutions, such as universities and museums, are eligible to apply.** The Center will **accept responses to the Interest Form on an ongoing basis and will host a random lottery each month through October 2020 – the next Interest Form deadline is Wednesday, July 1.** Through the lottery process, **the Center will invite a maximum of 250 applicants per month.** If you submit an Interest Form before the designated monthly deadline, you will receive notification via the email you provide the day after the designated monthly deadline regarding the status of your initiation. **If you are not selected in the lottery to apply to this month’s grant cycle, you will automatically be included in the lotteries for each of the following months through October 2020.** Upon receipt of your invitation to apply, you can access the application via a link to SlideRoom. The application for the Craft Futures Fund for July funding must be submitted via SlideRoom no later than Monday, July 13 at 11:59 pm ET. Applicants will be notified of their award status two weeks after the application deadline. The application process requires a \$5 application fee, which goes directly to supporting the Craft Futures Fund. Applicants who cannot pay the fee may request for the fee to be waived after receiving an invitation to apply. **Up to 60 application fees per monthly cycle can be waived upon request.** [Read the Press Release](#) announcing the fund. [Complete the online interest form.](#) For further questions, please contact [grants@centerforcraft.org](mailto:grants@centerforcraft.org) or call 828-785-1357. [Download the Grant Kit.](#)

- **[BWC Capital’s Economic Development Infrastructure Fund](#) offers loans to U.S. minority-owned businesses negatively affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and/or the racially fueled social unrest across the nation.** Funding is intended to support small businesses in communities of color to succeed and grow, providing further employment opportunities within the communities. The program is established to help businesses of color that have been forced to temporarily close or reduce business activity due to the COVID-19 pandemic and/or physically damaged or suffered stagnant business operations due to the economic harm caused by the civil unrest across the country amid continued racial equity. Unlike most bank loans or grants, the BWC+invest is a patient capital program where BWC Capital will make a financial investment in businesses of color with **no expectation of immediate repayment**, to give the enterprise time to stabilize hence the three years of patient capital. **Loans will be a minimum of \$10,000 and have a 3-year repayment period.** The program is designed to provide a loan to businesses of color with at least one year of operation, more than two full-time equivalent (FTEs) employees and an established track record for producing enough cash flow to support loan repayment within a three-year period to meet the requirements of the up to 50% loan forgiveness guidelines. **The deadline for submission is Wednesday, July 1.** Completed applications will be **reviewed within 24-72 hours after submission and provided an approval or disapproval status within one week.** [Apply online.](#) For more information email [info@bwccapital.com](mailto:info@bwccapital.com) or call 336-691-5786.

- [Scholastic, Inc.](#) through the Scholastic Reading Club is **accepting applications to author James Patterson's and Scholastic Book Clubs Giveaway Program. 5,000 winners** will be selected to receive a Scholastic Book Clubs & James Patterson Classroom Library Grant in the **amount of \$500. These funds are provided to the individual** and not the school and are to be used only for the purchase of books for the winning teacher's classroom library. In addition, the winning teachers will receive 500 Scholastic Book Clubs Bonus Points to be used toward books for their classrooms. Applications may be submitted by current Pre-K through Grade 12 teachers in a U.S. School. Applicants should be aware that this is a sweepstakes program and not a traditional grant program. This grant opportunity is available nationwide. **Applications are due by Friday, July 31 – [apply here](#).** Email [PattersonPartnership@scholastic.com](mailto:PattersonPartnership@scholastic.com) with questions.
- [Students for Oncological Aid and Relief's \(SOAR\) COVID-19 Relief Grant](#) offers **grants of \$2,000 to U.S. individuals who have been affected by cancer to offset the financial hardships of COVID-19.** The purpose of the funding is to ease the financial burden of those previously or currently afflicted with cancer and who are also financially affected by the financial effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. **Two grants of \$2,000 will be awarded. Submit the application by Friday, July 31 at 11:59 pm CT.** Send the application and supplementary documents to [info.soarabove@gmail.com](mailto:info.soarabove@gmail.com). Call 832-729-6063 with questions.
- The Laura and John Arnold Foundation and Arnold Ventures are [providing grants to U.S. nonprofit organizations](#) and federal, state, or local government agencies to **expand the delivery of eligible evidence-based interventions addressing major social issues. Applicants must submit a letter of interest before the submission of a full proposals.** Applicants whose letters are reviewed favorably will be invited to submit a full proposal. **There is no deadline for submitting a letter of interest; applicants may submit a letter at any time via email.** Funding is intended for programs that impact policy areas, such as education, employment and training, and violence prevention. This initiative seeks to spur expanded implementation of such programs to make significant headway against U.S. social problems. **Review a [list of programs that are eligible for expansion under this initiative](#).** Although it is not a formal selection criterion, the Fund is more favorably inclined toward applications that include co-funding for the project from a governmental or other entity, or other evidence that relevant stakeholders are committed to the project's success and sustainability. **Within one month, the Foundation will respond to applicants and let them know if there is interest in receiving a full proposal. If invited, applicants may submit their proposal at any time. It will take up to one month to review the proposal.** Applicants may submit a letter at any time via email to [MovingtheNeedle@arnoldfoundation.org](mailto:MovingtheNeedle@arnoldfoundation.org). For questions, please contact [Kim Cassel](#), Evidence-Based Policy Director at 202-680-8210. Contact [Bridget Williamson](#), Grants Budget Manager.
- The Charles H. Revson **Foundation [provides grants to U.S. and Israel nonprofit organizations](#) for activities in the areas of [urban affairs](#), [Jewish life](#), [biomedical research](#), and [education](#).** Applicants must submit a letter of inquiry in order to receive an invitation to apply. Revson evaluates letters of inquiry as they are

**submitted throughout the year.** Full proposals are accepted by invitation early. **If you have been invited to apply for a grant, please download the appropriate proposal submission guidelines.** The Revson Foundation does not support individuals; film projects; projects located outside of the U.S. or Israel; endowments; capital or building campaigns; fundraising dinner events; national or local health appeals; book projects; and research grants or scholarships for individuals. [Learn how to apply](#), [get answers to FAQs](#) and [review proposal guidelines](#). **Submit Letters of Inquiry to [loi@revsonfoundation.org](mailto:loi@revsonfoundation.org).** Contact [Katie Shragge](#), Grants and Accounting Associate, at 212-935-3340 with questions

- [Behind the Scenes \(BTS\)](#) **offers grants to U.S. and Canada entertainment-sector workers who have been hospitalized with COVID-19.** Funding is intended to address the financial needs of those whose major source of income includes being behind the scenes in a performance venue, behind the camera, or on the road. Grants are also available for working companies that are directly involved in supplying entertainment technology produces, and services, such as dealers, manufacturers, production companies, and design firms. **Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis. Grant decisions are generally made within a few days of receiving a completed application.** You may receive a telephone call from a member of the Review Committee or their representative if there are further questions about your situation. If a grant is awarded, you will be contacted immediately to coordinate delivery of the grant. An application may be submitted on behalf of an eligible person by a spouse or domestic partner, a legal guardian or a person acting under a valid power of attorney or other legal authority. In extreme situations an application may be submitted by a close friend or colleague on behalf of the eligible person. Email applications to [info@btshelp.org](mailto:info@btshelp.org), fax to 646-413-2308, or mail to 630 Ninth Avenue, Suite 609, New York, NY 10036. Contact [Lori Rubinstein](#), Executive Director at 212-244-1421 with questions. [Behind the Scenes has three types of grants:](#)
  - **The Basic Needs Grant:** For entertainment technology professionals who are seriously ill or injured and are seeking assistance with basic living expenses (such as rent or mortgage, property taxes, utilities, insurance and transportation) or for medical expenses (including health insurance, doctor and hospital bills, medication, physical therapy, home health care, and medical equipment. This grant is also appropriate if the eligible person has an immediate, dependent family member who is seriously ill or injured. [Apply for a Basic Needs Grant.](#)
  - **The Counseling Grant:** For entertainment technology professionals who would like to initiate or support ongoing counseling or participate in an in-patient or out-patient recovery program. [Apply for a Counseling Grant.](#)
  - **The Funeral Assistance Grant:** For immediate family members of an entertainment technology professional who has passed away and assistance with funeral costs is needed. [Apply for a Funeral Assistance Grant.](#)
- [We Need Diverse Books' \(WNDB\) Emergency Fund for Diverse Creatives in Children's Publishing](#) **offers grants of up to \$1,000 to U.S. individuals to mitigate losses due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Funding is intended to support illustrators, authors, and other professionals in the field of children's literature.** Eligible applicants have been

impacted financially by the crisis due to income loss. Writers and/or illustrators must be traditionally published in children's literature and must demonstrate a financial need due to cancelled festivals, school or library visits. Publishing professionals who have been furloughed or laid off must have held a position that focused on children's literature. Positions include but are not limited to editors, agents, publicists, designers, and sales positions. Applicants must identify as one or more of the following: Person of Color, Native American, LGBTQIA+, Person with a disability, or Marginalized religious or cultural minority. **All applications will be kept confidential. WNDB will not list the recipients publicly. Applicants should receive a response in 14-21 days upon receipt of their application.** To ensure that the selection committee has the time to review each submission with care, **WNDB must cap the first round of applications at 70.** WNDB plans to open to more applicants after they have completed this round. Given the volume of applications, WNDB will not be able to respond to individual inquiries about the status of your application. If you have any questions, please reach out to [emergencygrant@diversebooks.org](mailto:emergencygrant@diversebooks.org). Review [Submission Guidelines](#) and [FAQs](#). [Apply here.](#)

- For the sixth year in a row, [the VING Project](#) is **giving hundreds of teenagers \$1,000 each to give away to a friend, coworker or any kind of person in need outside of their families.** To receive a check, any U.S. resident between the ages of 14 and 18 can **choose to nominate someone outside of their family who is at least 18 years old and in need of financial assistance.** First, teenagers must record a two-minute nomination video. **Chosen applicants will receive a \$1,000 check they must be able to deliver to their nominee.** As of now, there is no limit on how much money the VING Project is giving away.

## Local Resources

- [MICAHA Milwaukee](#) is a multi-racial, interfaith organization committed to the justice issues of greatest impact on our communities. MICAHA is hosting a **weekly interactive, community-building leadership development series from Thursday, June 25 to Thursday, July 23 6:30 – 8 pm CT.** The Leadership for Community Transformation series will introduce the basic concepts, attitudes and disciplines needed to build strong, effective organizations capable of making real change. The topics covered over the 5-week series include Attitudes and Disciplines of Organizing Power; One-on-Ones; Issues and Actions; Building Teams and Recruiting New Leaders; and Effective Meetings and Campaigns. **This series is free, but participants should only sign up if they anticipate they can participate in at least four of the five sessions.** [Register here.](#) Contact [lisa@micahmke.org](mailto:lisa@micahmke.org) or 414-614-3675 for more information.
- Check out [COVID-19 Wisconsin Connect \(CWC\)](#) either online or on your smart phone to find answers to your questions. CWC was created by experts in Wisconsin with the community in mind. It also offers resources you might find helpful if you are feeling lonely, sad, or stressed.

- UW-Milwaukee is offering a [free online summer class](#) for high school students and community members to learn about their city's history, covering the environment, the manufacturing industry, civil rights and more. **The course runs from Monday, July 6 to Friday, July 31 and consists of four week-long modules**, each focusing on a different aspect of Milwaukee's history. It's intended to show participants what online learning can look like, as well as provide an opportunity to learn about our city.
- The [Wisconsin Office of the Commissioner of Insurance](#) (OCI) built [WisCovered.com](#) to help connect Wisconsin residents with **free expert help** in their communities and around the state. OCI is a state agency that educates Wisconsinites about their insurance options. Speak to a health insurance expert that can help find the best affordable plan, access online resources and get answers to common questions. The site is available in English, Spanish and Hmong and was created to work best on smartphones.
- Milwaukee County's [Universal Mask Policy](#) goes into effect this week. To protect the health and safety of the community and County employees, everyone will be required to wear a face mask at all county buildings and facilities with controlled entrances. It is strongly recommended face masks be worn outdoors at outdoor County facilities and grounds, as well as at the airport and on buses. Disposable face masks will be provided to members of the public who do not have a mask when one is required, as well as on buses. The Universal Face Mask is in line with the [CDC recommendation](#) that face masks be worn to slow the spread of COVID-19, particularly in areas of significant community-spread transmission, such as Milwaukee County.
- The National Guard testing sites continue to operate this week. North Side (Custer Stadium – 4300 W. Fairmont Ave) and South Side (UMOS – 2710 S. Chase Ave) Locations are **open Monday – Thursday 11 am – 7 pm, and Friday – Saturday 11 am – 5 pm. The testing sites are closed on Sundays. These sites will be closed Thursday, July 2 – Sunday, July 5 in observance of the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday.** Call 2-1-1 or visit [211 online](#) to find the testing location nearest to you.
- Shalem Healing continues to **offer free testing on Wednesdays from 4 – 6 pm through the month of July** in the [Bader Philanthropies](#) parking lot (3300 N. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive). No appointment is needed and those seeking a test do not need to be showing symptoms. A limited number of tests are available. Both nasal and blood testing will be offered.
- [Hunger Task Force](#) will provide summer meal sites for kids through the [Milwaukee Summer Meals Program](#). The program provides **children age 18 and under with access to nutritious meals** during the summer to help eliminate the summer nutrition gap. Meals are available at a number of locations – [find a location](#). To find the location nearest you, dial 2-1-1, call toll free at 866-211-3380, text your zip code 898-211, or visit [impactinc.org](#).
- Milwaukee County Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) is **seeking input for the 2021 Budget**. It has been a difficult budget year and DHHS wants to hear from the public ideas on how to be as effective and efficient as possible. On the [DHHS website](#), there is a link to a short survey and the opportunity to provide comments.

- As Wisconsin starts to reopen, we must stay safe and continue to protect ourselves and others in our community from COVID-19. Keep yourself, your loved ones and our community safe by following public health guidelines and taking protective measures. Visit [StaySafeMKE.org](https://www.staysafemke.org) for tips on how to stay safe and the latest information on testing. You can also download Stay Safe graphics to show your support and encourage others to #StaySafeMKE.
- The North Shore Health Department with the collaboration of UW-Milwaukee Zilber School of Public Health is **conducting a community survey** to learn how the residents of the North Shore feel about the response of the NSHD to the COVID-19 pandemic. The ultimate goal is to learn how the NSHD can improve their response in future emergency situations. The survey is online and can be accessed with this [link](#).
- The five Milwaukee County senior centers will likely be closed for older adult programming through at least March 2021. Get more information from the [Milwaukee County Department on Aging update](#) in response to COVID-19.
- Browse events or list your own with WEDC's new [COVID-19 Business Recovery Events Calendar](#). As organizations throughout Wisconsin plan and host events to help businesses recover, this calendar collects them in one central place.
- Access the latest issue of [Handy News & Notes](#) from Milwaukee County's Office for Persons with Disabilities for resources, including:
  - Explore [Recreation for People with Disabilities](#), offering rec programs and summer camps that provide endless opportunities to help you stay active. [Subscribe](#) for the free Rec on Deck newsletter.
  - Get easy access to the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines, ADA Resources, ADA Checklists, and ADA Enforcement Agencies by bookmarking the [website](#) on your smartphone.
  - Beach wheelchairs will be back at Milwaukee County's Bradford Beach **until Labor Day. Persons with disabilities can use the beach wheelchairs for free.** You can access a beach wheelchair by going to a Tiki Hut on the beach. [Watch a video](#) about the beach wheelchairs.
  - [Hand-cycles are available](#) for use or rent from Wheel Fun Rentals at Milwaukee County Veteran's Park **from now until Labor Day. Persons with disabilities can use the hand-cycles for free.** Head down to Veteran's Park and enjoy a bike ride along the lake. It's also a great way to get an upper body workout. [Watch a video](#) about the hand-cycles.
  - Get access to information about accessible activities (baseball, basketball, biking, fishing, skating, skiing, swimming, etc.), adaptive equipment that you can use (beach wheelchairs, hand-cycles, golf carts, ice sleds, etc.), recreation program providers, and much more recreation information on the OPD Recreation [webpage](#).
  - **An all-terrain power wheelchair will soon be available for free use at Milwaukee County's Wehr Nature Center** (9701 W College Ave, Franklin, WI) from [Access Ability Wisconsin](#). Individuals with disabilities will be able to use the wheelchair for free while at the nature center, and/or they can borrow the equipment and use it at a different location of their choosing.

- Milwaukee County is the first county in the country to **offer free [Aira technology services](#)** (to Aira users) at the airport, on public transportation and in destination locations. Get the list of Milwaukee County building/facilities offering free Aira services by visiting the [OPD website](#). **Aira is today's fastest growing assistive community**. One tap of a button instantly connects you with a sighted professional agent who delivers visual assistance anytime and anywhere. Using augmented reality, Aira connects people who are blind or low vision to a trained professional agent who is dedicated to further enhancing their everyday experience – completely hands-free assistance at the touch of a button. To find out more information, including individual pricing plans, equipment, services, etc. contact Aira at 800-835-1934.
- Exchange and Transmission Exchange (ETE) offer all types of mechanical repairs and vehicle maintenance on almost any type of mobility equipped vehicles. Visit or call the **Milwaukee location** at 2727 S 27th St / 414-645-7000. Visit or call the **Waukesha location** at 1604 S West Ave / 262-548-0000. For a free quote, email ETE at [vf@enginetrans.com](mailto:vf@enginetrans.com).
- Milwaukee County has partnered with [KultureCity](#) to improve their ability to assist and accommodate citizens/guests with sensory needs. The objective is to provide an inclusive and seamless experience for all citizens/guests including those with sensory needs. **Milwaukee County offers quiet areas, headphone zones, and sensory bags** (with noise canceling headphones, fidgets, feeling zones cards, weighted lap pad, and more) at five destinations/locations (Boerner Botanical Gardens, Coggs Human Services Building, Milwaukee County Zoo, Mitchell Park Domes, and Wehr Nature Center). Download the KultureCity All-Inclusive App to help you further with your visit to these facilities – download on the [Apple Store](#) or [Google Play](#).
- Need a meeting place during the day away from work? [Utilize the Wil-o-Way Underwood conference room](#) in Wauwatosa for free. The conference room seats 20, offers a 50" flat screen TV, a whiteboard and Wi-Fi.
- Follow Milwaukee County government on [Social Media](#) (Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, Flickr, Pinterest and LinkedIn).
- Wisconsin state regulators are [pushing to give federal pandemic aid to laid-off Wisconsinites with disabilities](#). The state Department of Workforce Development is asking the U.S. Department of Labor to allow it to issue Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) – a program under Congress' disaster stimulus bill – to unemployed workers who also receive federal disability benefits.
- The Wisconsin Department of Trade and Consumer Protection [provides resources](#) for reopening and expanding services for restaurants and retail businesses while reducing the risk of COVID-19.
- The Wisconsin Department of Health Services [provides resources](#) on COVID-19 for businesses, employers, and workers, and includes information about employer-based outbreaks.
- The American Red Cross is hosting a Blood Drive at **Milwaukee County Zoo Monday, June 29 – Wednesday, July 1 from 9 am to 3 pm at the Peck Center** (10001 W

Bluemound Road). All presenting donors will receive free same-day admission, parking, and a bag with gifts from the sponsors. When arriving at the zoo, use the main/east entrance and tell the gate attendant you are there to give blood. The Peck Center is through the welcome building, past the penguins and down the boardwalk. Appointments are strongly encouraged. Visit [RedCrossBlood.org](https://www.redcrossblood.org), call 1-800-RED-CROSS, or download the Blood Donor App and **enter sponsor code MKE ZOO**.

## National Resources

- The CDC reports that there is [currently no evidence](#) to suggest that handling food or consuming food is associated with COVID-19. COVID-19 is thought to spread mostly [person-to-person](#) through respiratory droplets when someone coughs, sneezes, or talks. The CDC also published updated guidance for households and the handling of food or food packaging, specifically noting that the risk of infection from food and packaging is low.
- [Review current testing data](#) in the U.S. from the CDC.
- The CDC [offers guidance](#) for monitoring and evaluating community mitigation strategies for COVID-19. Monitoring and Evaluation findings can be used to inform decision-making about strengthening, focusing, and relaxing mitigation strategies; understand individual and community factors that support or hinder mitigation behaviors; monitor disparities and social determinants of health and understand how different populations participate in and are affected by community mitigation strategies; effectively communicate information to the public based on culturally and linguistically appropriate strategies; ensure that the needs of disproportionately affected populations are met; strengthen community factors and outcomes related to epidemiology, healthcare capacity, social services, and public health capacity; and disseminate lessons learned.
- OSHA has [Recommended Practices](#) that present a step-by-step approach to implementing an effective safety and health program. These recommended practices note the importance of finding and fixing hazards in the workplace before they cause injuries, illnesses, and deaths in addition to the suffering and financial hardship these events can cause for workers, their families, and employers.
- OSHA's [Leading Indicators](#) are proactive and preventative measures that can help determine whether your safety and health activities are effective at preventing incidents or whether there are potential problems with your safety and health program. Leading Indicators play an important role in preventing worker fatalities, injuries and illnesses, and strengthening other safety and health outcomes in the workplace.
- OSHA recommends that all safety and health programs should incorporate elements of [Management Leadership](#), [Worker Participation](#), and a [Systematic Approach for Finding and Fixing Hazards](#). Implementing a meaningful safety and health program takes dedicated planning, but even incremental improvements are valuable. The resources on the three core elements provide simple, concrete ways for you to develop your safety and health program.

- A bipartisan initiative is underway In Congress to establish a [\\$120 billion relief fund for independent restaurants](#) in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic. **The Real Economic Support That Acknowledges Unique Restaurant Assistance Needed to Survive (RESTAURANTS) Act of 2020** was introduced in the House on June 15 by a bipartisan coalition. The legislation is billed as a “restaurant stabilization grant program” and is specifically for independently owned restaurants. The Independent Restaurant Coalition (IRC), formed in the wake of the pandemic, has been a proponent of such a relief fund. The IRC recently released a study that found 85% of independent restaurants are likely to close by year’s end without such fund. Restaurateurs have contended that PPP doesn’t meet their needs – the criteria for loan forgiveness include spending 75% of the loan on payroll and 25% expenses, while maintaining the same number of employees that the business had a year prior; or 60% payroll and 40% other expenses. Those requirements were difficult for restaurateurs to meet during the pandemic.
- Some small businesses may be able to get a second PPP loan [if legislation introduced last Thursday in Congress becomes law](#). **The Prioritized Paycheck Protection Program, or P4, Act** would allow some small businesses that have already exhausted their PPP loans, or are on track to do so, to apply for a second one. The program would be open specifically to small businesses with fewer than 100 employees, including self-employed and sole practitioners, and whose revenue dropped at least 50% because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Publicly traded companies are explicitly barred from tapping into any additional loan funds. The PPP’s original inclusion of public companies in the program earlier this year caused a backlash after several well-known national brands received PPP loans. Under this new legislation, restaurants and other franchise-operated businesses can apply for additional funds as long as individual locations don’t exceed the employee cap and the second loan doesn’t exceed \$2 million. Some nonprofits are eligible, specifically the same 501(c)3 organizations that were eligible under the original PPP. It is unclear how likely passage is for this legislation. Congress has shown a willingness to alter key components of the original PPP, but the HEROES Act, which the House passed in May, has not been taken up by the Senate.
- As people return to work, [health experts recommend](#) for people who use elevators to wear masks, use a knuckle or object to press buttons, and avoid speaking to lower the risk of transmission.
- The U.S. Federal Trade Commission (FTC) published a [website](#) designed to inform consumers about the level and type of COVID-19 related frauds occurring. The website contains several interactive dashboards that can be used to query fraud information by state, type of fraud, and more.
- The U.S. Department of Labor’s [Employee Benefits Security Administration](#) updated its [Coronavirus Response webpage](#) with [Affordable Care Act Implementation FAQs Part 43](#) addressing the CARES Act and the Families First Coronavirus Response Act.
- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration [is warning people](#) not to use any hand sanitizer from a Mexican manufacturer after finding a potentially fatal toxic substance in some of its products. [The agency said](#) that the substance, methanol, is “not an acceptable ingredient for hand sanitizers.” Substantial exposure can lead to problems including nausea, vomiting, headaches, blurred vision, permanent blindness or damage to the

nervous system, seizures and coma. People exposed to hand sanitizer containing methanol “should seek immediate treatment.”

- Large universities [will need to make major changes to prevent outbreaks](#) if students are brought back to campus for the fall semester, according to a [working paper](#) written by researchers at Swarthmore College and the University of Pennsylvania earlier this month. Schools should prepare to roll out widespread testing, limit class sizes, mandate masks and restrict contact between students outside of class. Professors should ready themselves for extended absences of students who test positive for the virus and have to quarantine until they recover. Without any precautions, every susceptible member of the student body and staff would be infected by the end of the fall semester, the model shows. But adopting a set of interventions could keep infection rates much lower, with as few as 66 people testing positive before winter break. The “standard intervention” the researchers propose to keep infection rates low includes quarantine and contact tracing, universal mask-wearing, daily randomized testing of 3% of the university community, and transitioning all classes with 30 or more students to online-only interactions. While limitations on social gatherings will probably be a challenging rule for colleges to enforce, the simulation showed that social distancing is one of the most important precautions to prevent outbreaks.
- Some youth sports are starting up again. Before returning to play, [the CDC has tips](#) for kids, coaches, and parents to protect themselves and others from COVID-19.
- President Donald Trump [signed an executive order on Wednesday](#) directing the Health and Human Services (HHS) Department to further assist foster children with bipartisan measures particularly needed during the coronavirus pandemic. The order refocuses HHS’ attention on bolstering partnerships among state and local organizations, as well as providing greater oversight of how those grant recipients spend federal money. Reports have surfaced indicating that the coronavirus hit foster children especially hard given fears families might have surrounding potential transmission from bringing new people into their homes. Family courts have closed down as well, prompting HHS’ interest in things like virtual hearings to expedite children’s cases. So far, the department has doled out \$45 million worth of aid allotted by the CARES package passed by Congress in March. It hopes to utilize roughly six times that amount - \$300 million – to assisting foster children through the Families First Coronavirus Response Act.
- The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) [issued an alert](#) that social media posts referencing an exemption to public facemasks, often with the DOJ seal, are fraudulent. The DOJ did not issue nor does the agency endorse the posts.

## Agency Resources

### *Schools*

- **The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) has published “[Education Forward: Safely and Successfully Reopening Wisconsin Schools](#)”** in collaboration with Educational Stakeholders and the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS). DPI is providing this guidance to aid in school districts’ decision making as they look to

build educational services and supports in a COVID-19 environment. Under state law, school districts determine the operations of their buildings and the learning environment. Risk mitigation and health factors will drive decisions regarding school operations. Every school district will need to plan for both school operations on campus and remote learning. DPI will be using federal CARES Act dollars to support school districts around remote learning options. Changes will need to be made as districts look at how they provide meals to students, transport students to and from school, move through their buildings, and gather to celebrate achievements. Due to the extensive variance in schools, this guidance is offered as a workbook to be considered in conjunction with the DHS risk assessment checklist. Please use these tools to discuss school district reopening plans with local health agencies and ensure information is complete in regard to the magnitude of risk associated with options being considered. DPI will continuously update this guidance as new information arises and provide additional resources as they become available to support school operations and the learning environment. DPI is focused on providing school districts the necessary supports and regulator relief to pursue innovative strategies to ensure equitable access to learning. The document provides guidance on returning to schools; the learning landscape; operations; health and safety; instructional programming; and out-of-school time programs. The guidance includes a School Health Services Infection Control and Mitigation Toolkit; a Reopening School Buildings Risk Assessment Tool; Interim COVID-19 Transportation Guidance; Interim COVID-19 Cafeterias and Food Service Guidance; and a COVID-19 Infection Control Checklist for K-12 Schools.

- All 16 of the school districts completely or partially within Dane County have [waived or loosened at least two academic standards](#) to help seniors graduate. Academic standards that have been waived or loosened include changed grading standards after schools shut down; reduced the number of credits needed to graduate; sought waivers of the state's civic exam, minimum instructional hours and educator effectiveness requirements; and made any other changes to help seniors graduate.

### *Youth Sports*

- The Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA) has [released guidance](#) to help children returned to organized athletics this summer. Similar to the North Shore's phased reopening plan, the WIAA guidance slowly ramps up participation in athletics to maintain the safety and health of those involved. Social distancing will apply – initially, most athletic activities will consist of individual skill work and conditioning to allow for social distancing between athletes. Masks are encouraged – please use caution if you choose to wear a mask while exercising. Monitor for trouble breathing, dizziness, and confusion. Players and coaches will be screened prior to every activity. DO NOT participate if you have been in contact with anyone positive for COVID-19; a temperature greater than 100.4°F; any symptoms of COVID-19, even the slightest feelings of illness could be a sign of COVID-19. If you are experiencing symptoms, get tested before returning to play.

### *Camps*

- The CDC has [updated guidance](#) and suggestions for youth and summer camps.

### *Jewish Family Services*

- JHelp offers crisis funding for individuals who need assistance with rent/mortgage, food, transportation, clothing, utilities (phone/internet), and other emergent needs. Call JFS at 414-390-5800 for more information.

### *SHOFAR*

- [SHOFAR](#) (Safeguarding Health Families and Relationships) is an initiative of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation that addresses child sexual abuse, sexual harassment and domestic violence. [Read more](#) about SHOFAR. If you'd like to be involved, contact [Tziporah Altman-Shafer](#) at 414-963-2718. See all [SHOFAR resources](#) to get help now.
- Call the Sojourner Family Peace Center 24/7 Domestic Violence Hotline at 414-933-2722. The National Domestic Hotline offers 24/7 support in more than 200 languages – call 800-799-7233.

### *MJFLA*

- The Milwaukee Jewish Free Loan Association offers confidential, interest free loans for any purpose to people who find themselves in a time of financial need. [Learn more](#) or call 414-961-1500.

### **Reopening Recommendations and Best Practices**

- The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the CDC, in consultation with the Food and Drug Administration, [have released joint coronavirus-related interim guidance](#) for **employers and workers performing seafood processing operations in onshore facilities and aboard vessels offshore**. The guidance includes recommended actions employers can take to reduce the risk of exposure to the coronavirus. While the seafood products these workers handle do not expose them to the coronavirus, their work environments – processing stations and other areas in busy facilities where they have close contact with coworkers and supervisors – may contribute to their potential exposure. The interim guidance includes information regarding:
  - Modifying the alignment of workstations, so that workers are at least 6 feet apart in all directions;

- Staggering workers across shifts to limit the number of employees on site at any given time;
- Adding additional clock in/out stations, or staggering times for workers to clock in/out to reduce crowding in these areas;
- Providing temporary break areas and restrooms, or staggering breaks, to avoid crowding in these areas;
- Analyzing sick leave and incentive program policies to ensure that ill workers stay home and are not penalized for taking sick leave if they have the coronavirus; and
- Screening and monitoring workers and creating a system for workers to alert their supervisors if they have signs or symptoms of the coronavirus or had recent close contact with a suspected or confirmed case.
- Review the [CDC's Considerations](#) for **Animals Activities at Fairs, Shows, and other events.**
  - Events that bring together people and animals, such as fairs and agricultural shows, can increase the spread of COVID-19 among people and animals.
  - The risk of animal-to-person spread is considered to be low.
  - However, fair and agricultural show organizers should consider the potential for spread from person-to-person, person-to-animal, and possibly animal-to-animal.
  - If people will be interacting with animals at an event, take precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
  - During the COVID-19 pandemic, show organizers should follow [CDC's Considerations for Events and Gatherings](#) when deciding whether to hold, postpone, or cancel a fair, agricultural show, or other event where animals may be exhibited. Planners should also act in accordance with state and local jurisdictional guidance with regards to continuing operations at fair grounds or agricultural shows.
  - For general disease prevention when interacting with animals, follow advice in the [Compendium of Measures to Prevent Disease Associated with Animals in Public Settings](#), which provides standard recommendations on reducing the risk of disease related to animal contact in public settings for public health officials, veterinarians, animal venue operators, animal exhibitors (e.g., 4-H programs), visitors to animal venues and exhibits, teachers, camp operators, and others.
  - Additional information and a checklist on biosecurity measures to prevent zoonotic diseases from spreading at fairs and animal exhibitions may be found in the [NASPHV's Resources on Zoonotic Influenza](#).
  - [Some animals have been reported to be infected](#) with SARS-CoV-2 worldwide, including pet cats and dogs in the United States. To date, there have been no reports of horses, cows, pigs, chickens, or ducks testing positive for SARS-CoV-2. More studies are needed to understand if and how different animals could be affected by COVID-19.
- Review the [CDC's COVID-19 Guidance for Bank Employees](#) on how to protect themselves and others and slow the spread.

## Examples of Reopening

### *Synagogues*

- Congregation Sinai's Safer at Sinai task force provides a [step-by-step guide to outdoor services](#), **scheduled to start on Friday, June 26**. Please keep in mind that services will continue to be streamed online, with links provided in the Sinai E-News, if you do not attend in person. Before you arrive, **you must use the RSVP system ahead of time** so seats can be set up for you and your immediate household members. **RSVP deadline is 12 pm CT on Fridays**. Based on the current North Shore Health Department (NSHD) reopening guidelines, **Sinai can only accommodate 50 attendees including RSVPs, staff, clergy and greeters/ushers. In case of rain or other circumstances, Sinai will decide by 1 pm CT on Friday to cancel outdoor services, and to conduct them only online** and you'll receive an update with an online link. Self-monitor your health – if you feel sick or at higher risk, stay home and join online. Arrive early enough to go through the entry process and get seated, so the service can start on time. Wear a mask from home – if you don't have one, one will be provided, masks are mandatory. The sign-in station is located at the east end of the sidewalk in front of the building – stop here first. Please remember to remain socially distant as you approach the sign-in station. You'll be provided a mask (if you didn't bring one), have your temperature checked, answer NSHD screening questions, sign-in, and obtain name tags. Sanitize your hands once inside the vestibule, then proceed to deck doors without stopping to socialize in the lobby. Greeters/ushers will guide you downstairs and will direct you to your immediate household seats. Only the main level restrooms are open, one occupant at a time – leave the door open when you're finished. Only one person or family/household is permitted in the elevator at a time – please only use if needed. Bring your own prayer book or use one of Sinai's (they are sanitized and safe to use). Adherence to masking and social distancing is mandatory, or you may be asked to leave. The Rabbi and Cantor will not be masked but will be positioned 20' from the nearest members and will use microphones to mitigate risk. Clusters of 2 or more are only to be used by immediate household members, not for groups of friends, and are set 8' apart from other clusters. Do not move your chairs, and please only use the chairs provided by Sinai. Seating is not assigned in advance but is set up based on your RSVPs. If you're comfortable using chairs set up on the lawn, please allow those with mobility issues to use the chairs set up on the patio. Quiet singing is permitted but keep your mask on. The Rabbi and Cantor will do the motzi and kiddush prayers on behalf of the congregation, but please do yours at home. Please stay seated until greeters/ushers direct one household at a time to leave the seating area. Please re-rack your chairs (if you are able) then proceed upstairs one family at a time. Do not gather in the lobby to socialize on your way out.
- After many weeks apart, [Temple Menorah has announced](#) the **gradual resumption of in-building minyans**. Resumption of in-person minyans has been a carefully considered process. The highest priority has always been the health of the

congregational family. With this in mind, Temple Menorah will begin a slow re-opening of the shul. Morning minyan began on **Thursday, June 11 at 7:30 am and Sunday, June 14 at 9 am. Temple Menorah will continue these twice weekly minyans for the foreseeable future.** All services will take place in the Main Lobby. Please enter through the main doors of the Temple. Chairs for each attendee at the Minyan will be clearly delineated and distanced by at least 6 feet. The chairs may not be moved off their designated spot. **The limit of attendees at the minyans will be 15 people. Everyone must sign up for each of these services. If you don't sign up, please do not attend.** You may email [rabbi@templemenorah.com](mailto:rabbi@templemenorah.com) or call the temple office at 414-355-1120 to register. The process for allowing in person prayer is being re-evaluated constantly and will be updated as conditions change. Temple Menorah will be continuing their Zoom Minyan and classes at other times for the foreseeable future to ensure that all will have access to the programming that Temple Menorah offers. Only members of Temple Menorah who have pre-registered and meet ALL of the following conditions will be allowed to participate:

- Be completely free of any COVID-19 symptoms as described by the CDC.
- Have their temperature checked while entering the building.
- Wear a mask at all times in the building.
- Maintain Social Distancing.
- Have not traveled on an airplane in the last two weeks.

### *JCCs*

- In addition to its Beyond a Building virtual offerings, the Harry & Rose Samson Family JCC has begun reopening or preparing to reopen select physical spaces. **The JCC's Beyond a Building virtual offerings will continue.** Watch videos, access resources, and engage with your friends and their professional staff in their virtual spaces. Follow the JCC on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#). Content is also posted on the virtual program area of their [website](#). The [self-directed fitness floor](#) and [scheduled swim](#) reopened on June 1. [Early childhood education](#) resumed on June 8. [Youth summer care](#) is **scheduled to reopen on Monday, June 29** and the [Water Park](#) is **scheduled to reopen on Monday, July 6.**

### *Social Services*

- [The Milwaukee Center for Independence's](#) **in-person day services and brain health programming will re-open in July.** Since temporarily closing those programs in March due to COVID-19, the Center has been diligently developing procedures and practices to create a safe environment for their clients, families and staff that align with local, state and national health guidelines. Remote programming will continue to be offered along with in-person services offered at the **Bay View campus (3333 S. Howell Ave).** For more specific program information as well as dates and times of services, please contact LIFE/Brain Health Director [Kalli Reinheimer](#).

### *Schools*

- The Madison School District [announced](#) it will take a “hybrid” approach to the fall semester, incorporating both in-person and online instruction. Madison is slated to get 53,000 cloth masks for its 27,000 students and 4,300 staff and 106 thermometers for more than 50 school buildings. Around 3,000 Madison Metropolitan School District students [began the district’s first virtual summer school](#) on Monday. Students in grades three through 12 can [take courses focused on math and literacy](#) four or five days a week from **June 22 through the end of July**.

### *Workplaces*

- Virginia is stepping up on workplace safety. The state has [proposed its own coronavirus-era rules](#) to prevent workers from infection. It could serve as a blueprint for other states that want to ensure healthy workplaces as offices reopen. The [emergency temporary standard](#) was drafted by the state’s Department of Labor and Industry, under direction from Governor Ralph Northam. The draft of Virginia’s standard that the board will either approve or amend requires that employers develop policies for workers dealing with coronavirus-like symptoms, while prohibiting those workers suspected of having the coronavirus from showing up to work. The new rules would force companies to notify workers of possible exposure to infected co-workers within 24 hours, while also mandating physical distancing as well as sanitation, disinfection and hand-washing procedures. Many businesses said they were worried that the new rules could add a greater burden to their budgets during an already challenging time economically.

### *Farmers Markets*

- The Dane County Farmers’ Market isn’t coming back to the Capitol Square anytime soon, but most [smaller area farmers’ markets are open with some changes](#). The Dane County Farmers’ Market is continuing to connect farmers and buyers with food pickups at the Alliant Energy Center. Customers order in advance and pay before they pick up through the WhatsGood app or [online](#). Under “Forward Dane,” the county’s phased reopening plan, which moved into Phase 2 on Monday, June 15, outdoor mass gatherings in public venues can operate with a maximum of 100 people, not including employees, with everyone maintaining physical distancing. Drive-in activities are allowed and exempt, but individuals must remain in vehicles. Instead, the vendor puts the order into a trunk or through an open window. The last half hour is reserved for bicyclist and pedestrian orders. Of the 300 or so farmers’ markets in the state, the vast majority have opened. Each market is proceeding differently under COVID-19.

### *Courts*

- **Beginning Monday, July 20, [in-person trials will resume at the Milwaukee County Courthouse](#).** The County worked closely with health consultants to redesign courtrooms in a way that adheres to guidelines set by the CDC. Residents will begin receiving jury summons letters as early as next week. The reopening protocol for the courts is being led by health consultants and is rooted in best practices shared by the CDC. Precautions in place include:
  - Mandating the wearing of masks in all county buildings and providing masks for individuals who do not have one.
  - Asking individuals to answer the [CDC health screening questions](#).
  - Redesigning the courtrooms and jury deliberation rooms to maintain 6 feet of physical distance between individuals.
  - Increasing cleaning protocol.
  - Installing hand sanitizer stations and plexiglass in high traffic areas.
  - Limiting elevator use to two people at a time.

### *Restaurants*

- Restaurants in the city of Milwaukee [could have the chance to reopen at full capacity sooner than anticipated](#) under the city's phased reopening schedule. City officials are expected to soon announce a system that would allow individual restaurants to gain approval for a full reopening. Although details are still being determined, the program would allow restaurants to submit a COVID-19 safety plan to the city's health department. If approved, a restaurant would be allowed to operate at 100% capacity. **The city's intent is to allow businesses with approved safety plans to open to full capacity starting Friday, July 3.** The city hopes to have program infrastructure, such as a plan template and staff training, **in place to announce the program by Friday, June 26.** The program is not expected to apply to bars. City officials are developing the program in recognition of the fiscal challenges for a restaurant to open a dining room at up to 25% capacity. The city has been receiving plans for review throughout the pandemic from businesses that wanted to demonstrate the precautions they are taking and receive feedback. Participating businesses would have to practice physical distancing. The timing of the announcement will give businesses more lead time than when the city announced its move to Phase 3, which came with one day's notice. The program schedule will give interested restaurants a chance to bring in staff and inventory. [Restaurant owners who want to reopen to full capacity](#) in the city of Milwaukee can expect feedback about their proposed safety plan within seven business days. Proposed safety plans can be submitted by email to [cehadmin@milwaukee.gov](mailto:cehadmin@milwaukee.gov). The program gives restaurants the option to reopen fully but is not a requirement.

### *Movie Theatres*

- [View photos](#) of Marcus Theatres' Renaissance cinema as it begins phased reopening. As of Friday afternoon, Marcus Theatres [was encouraging but not requiring](#) guests to

wear masks. [Read the Milwaukee Business Journal's exclusive](#) with Marcus Corp. CEO Greg Marcus on what a touchless movie theater experience could be.

### *Airlines*

- Delta Air Lines Inc. chief executive officer Ed Bastian [said the airline will ban customers](#) who refuse to wear face coverings. [Delta requires all employees and customers](#) to wear masks in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Delta is the second-biggest carrier at Milwaukee Mitchell International Airport behind Southwest Airlines.

### *Conventions*

- Milwaukee will see a fraction of the \$200 million economic impact [that was expected from hosting](#) the Democratic National Convention now that the event has been scaled back. The Democratic National Convention Committee announced Wednesday evening that the August event will be “anchored” in Milwaukee, but [much of the activity will take place virtually](#). The now smaller event will be held at the Wisconsin Center instead of at Fiserv Forum, and state delegations were asked not to travel to the city. As a result of scaling back the event, Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett said fewer people would travel to Milwaukee, and fewer events would take place in the area. Barrett said convention officials, members of the Democratic party and candidates would come to the city. The DNC’s decision to utilize the Wisconsin Center District facilities is a boost to the publicly owned convention center complex and its affiliated UW-Milwaukee Panther Arena and Miller High Life Theatre.

### *Racetracks*

- The Churchill Downs Racetrack [announced](#) the Kentucky Derby with spectators will **occur on Saturday, September 5, 2020.**

### *Landmarks*

- The Eiffel Tower [reopened to visitors](#) after being closed for more than 100 days, the longest closure since World War II. Attendees must use the stairs and the highest viewing platform remains closed to prevent crowds from forming.

### *Casinos*

- After months of closure due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Ho-Chunk Gaming [announced](#) the reopening of the Wisconsin Dells casino will be **Monday, June 29**, with several restrictions both guest and employee safety. The casino said **operating hours will be 9 am – 1 am seven days a week**. In addition to the casino floor and back of house being

smoke free, the casino will require masks for all guests and employees. Staff will conduct temperature checks for all guests and employees who enter the premises. In an effort to maintain CDC social distancing guidelines, the casino will cap guest entry at 1,000, which is less than quarter of the usual capacity. In line with many other businesses, social distancing markers spaced out by six feet will dot transaction areas on the casino floor. The casino is not set to open in full, keeping many amenities temporarily closed. More information is available [here](#).

## Online Resources

- From the *Chronicle of Philanthropy*, [here's how to stay healthy emotionally](#) during social isolation. Mental-health experts offer advice on how to relax and when to seek help.
- [Listen to a podcast](#) on how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected fundraising. Bill Strathmann, who heads Network for Good, discusses trends in fundraising due to the pandemic.
- Access [Jewish Communal Scenario Planning Resources](#) from JFNA.
- Explore the “[Parenting in a Pandemic](#)” guide from the Rohr Jewish Learning Institute.
- [Watch highlights](#) from AJC Global Jewish Advocacy’s Virtual Global Forum.

## Trends

- [A new Chinese study](#) is raising concerns that recovered antibody levels in coronavirus patients may decrease only months after an infection. The study appeared to cast doubt on hopes that existing antibodies in the population would make second waves of infections less severe and help slow the spread of the virus.
- **Individual giving declined 6% in the first quarter of this year compared with last year**, a trend that would lead to \$25 billion in lost revenue for nonprofits if it continues throughout 2020. **Donations under \$250 rose 6%; midlevel gifts (\$250 to \$999) decreased by 2.2%; and large gifts (\$1,000 or more) declined by 7.4% in the first quarter of 2020.** The number of donors dropped by 5.3% and the donor-retention rate dropped 3 percentage points to 16.4%. [Read more details of this study](#).
- Bay View’s Chill on the Hill has [canceled its 2020 season](#). Information about other future Bay View Neighborhood Association events will be released as soon as possible, including Film on the Hill and Pumpkin Pavilion.
- President Donald Trump [will sign an executive order](#) suspending foreign work visas amid the economic downturn. The restrictions would block entry into the United States under the H-1B visa program for high-skilled workers and would also affect several other categories of visas. The order, which has been expected for several weeks, is fiercely opposed by a broad swath of businesses – including high tech companies in Silicon Valley, manufacturers, and others – who say it will block their ability to recruit critically needed workers from overseas countries for jobs that Americans are not willing or capable of performing. [The White House says](#) the measures are necessary to protect U.S. workers amid job losses triggered by the coronavirus pandemic.

This memo is a daily synthesis of critical information and trends about the pandemic that are relevant to the Milwaukee Jewish Federation’s work of caring for the needs of the Jewish people. While the information is intended for use by MJF leadership, we are also sharing it with other community leaders.

- The pandemic [continued to depress the Milwaukee streetcar's ridership numbers](#) in spring and has delayed installation of large digital kiosks with touch screens at its stations. Milwaukee is partnering with Smart City Media LLC to install 35 large digital kiosks along the streetcar route – featuring large touch screens, they would offer way finding and directories of downtown businesses.
- The [number of workplaces in Waukesha County](#) currently under state investigation for cases of COVID-19 has reached 40, double the amount being investigated just two weeks ago. According to Wisconsin DHS, workplaces include manufacturing and production facilities, distribution warehouses, offices and other indoor workplaces. Two or more cases of COVID-19 initiate investigations into workplaces. Facility-wide and outbreak investigations are considered closed when two maximum incubation periods (28 days) have passed since the last possible exposure to a COVID-19 case in the facility without any new cases. DHS has closed four investigations of COVID-19 in workplaces in Waukesha County. There are 38 active investigations of workplaces in Milwaukee County, nine in Ozaukee County and eight in Washington County. There are 34 workplaces being investigated in Racine County, and 23 active investigations in Kenosha County. In total, there have been 337 workplaces investigated by DHS, of which 291 are still active.
- Amid the global coronavirus pandemic, private equity investments in [telehealth and mental health companies](#) reached an all-time high in the first quarter of 2020. In particular, employer-focused mental health startups received significant investments.
- With three notable exceptions, southeast Wisconsin hospitals and clinics have [returned to pre-pandemic activity](#) for surgeries and clinic visits that were suspended earlier in the COVID-19 pandemic. Nearly all of the health care systems in southeast Wisconsin are running at 75% to nearly 100% of their pre-pandemic levels. The exceptions for adult medical-surgical hospitals are Ascension St. Francis campus on Milwaukee's south side and Ascension All Saints in Racine. Children's Wisconsin surgical cases still were down 30% and ambulatory clinic visits were 65% lower.
- [Saudi Arabia will drastically limit the number of pilgrims](#) to this year's Hajj in order to prevent the spread of the coronavirus. In a statement published by the state-run Saudi Press Agency, the Ministry of Hajj and Umrah, which oversees the pilgrimage, said the event would allow only Saudi pilgrims and those from other countries already inside the kingdom. The ministry did not specify the target attendance, but the limitations will surely make this year's pilgrimage much smaller than those in recent years, which have been vast.
- [Racine Theatre Guild \(RTG\) has postponed the first half of its season](#) until January 2021. RTG plans to initiate virtual programming for the first half of its season and will carefully monitor the public health situation as the pandemic continues. Ticketing and other information can be found by visiting [www.racine theatre.org](http://www.racine theatre.org) or by calling RTG's box office at 262-633-4218.
- [The E.U. is prepared to bar American travelers](#) when it reopens borders July 1 because the U.S. has not controlled the virus, according to draft lists. That prospect would lump American visitors in with Russians and Brazilians as unwelcome.

- President Donald Trump has told aides he is [largely supportive of sending Americans another round of stimulus checks](#), expressing the belief that the payments will boost the economy and help his chances at reelection in November. However, leading congressional Republicans and some senior White House officials remain skeptical of sending more checks. The White House has not officially taken a position on the matter.
- [Arizona reported record-high new coronavirus cases](#) and a continued rise in hospitalizations today as President Donald Trump arrived for a rally in Phoenix.
- Starting Saturday night, [Egyptians will no longer be under a national curfew](#) as the government eases coronavirus restrictions imposed since March.
- The first clinical COVID-19 vaccine trial will begin this week, researchers at South Africa's University of the Witwatersrand announced in an online news conference today. Dubbed the [South African Ox1Cov-19 Vaccine VIDA-Trial](#), the aim of the project is to find a vaccine that could prevent infection by SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. [The World Health Organization says](#) that just 11 vaccine candidates have reached the stage of clinical testing and Oxford University's vaccine has researched what is known as Phase 3, the final and largest-scale trial. South Africa has the highest number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Africa.
- Some travelers at Los Angeles International Airport [will be asked to undergo a new screening process](#) by walking past cameras that can flag travelers with a fever.
- [Thousands of Disney World employees have signed a petition](#) that calls for delaying the reopening of the Florida-based theme park as the state continues to see a record number of coronavirus cases. The petition, [which was approaching 4,000 signatures on Monday](#), is a small showing of the theme park's 78,000 staffers. Disneyland workers in California are also urging Disney to delay the reopening of the Anaheim park, and have collected nearly 45,000 signatures on their own petition.
- Dr. Anthony S. Fauci said states, including Texas, Florida and Arizona, [were seeing a "disturbing surge" of new coronavirus infections](#), adding that the next couple of weeks "are going to be critical in our ability to address those surges."
- Lake Geneva, a popular tourist destination in southeastern Wisconsin, has seen the impact of COVID-19, particularly on its international travelers, but in recent weeks [the area has seen growth in the return of regional tourism](#). Lake Geneva is dependent on its springtime tourism. Visit Lake Geneva has highlighted the activities that are making travelers feel safe. These include activities where social distancing can be achieved such as hiking, bird watching, biking and boating. The organization is focusing on health and safety in a way it had not previously done. Visit Lake Geneva is highlighting the safety measures that the local businesses and hotels have taken from disinfecting systems, UV wands to clean clothes and limitation on shop capacities. Visit Lake Geneva worked with the business improvement district and the city to develop safety posters to promote health and encourage visitors to return to the area.
- For the week of June 14 – 20, [Milwaukee hotel capacity improved to 36%](#), continuing on the slow road to recovery during the COVID-19 pandemic. Hotels continue to reopen with safety measures in place in southeastern Wisconsin. **Visit Milwaukee lists the**

**Courtyard by Marriot Milwaukee Downtown as preparing for a Tuesday, June 30 reopening and The Plaza Hotel for a Wednesday, September 2 reopening.**

- British newspaper *The Guardian* [reported this week](#) that the Ryder Cup scheduled to take place in Wisconsin this September at Whistling Straits will be pushed back to 2021. The newspaper says an announcement is expected to be made next week.
- After nearly three months of negotiations, Major League Baseball and the MLB Players Association [have reached an agreement](#) on a 60-game season which **will begin on Thursday, July 23 or Friday, July 24**. The Players Association agreed to health and safety protocols presented by MLB on Tuesday night to clear the final hurdle of negotiations. **The Milwaukee Brewers can resume spring training at Miller Park by Wednesday, July 1. The shortened season is slated to run through Sunday, September 27 with a 10-team playoff in October 2020.** The games will be played at home ballparks. The proposed schedule includes 40 games of divisional play with the other 20 being geographically close games to mitigate travel as much as possible to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Players will earn about 37% of their full salaries, pending the completion of the season.
- New York, New Jersey and Connecticut have [ordered mandatory, 14-day quarantines](#) for people traveling from states with high coronavirus infection rate averages. Right now, that means Florida, Arizona, Texas and six others currently in the grip of surging cases and hospitalizations that meet the threshold of experiencing significant community spread. **More than 36,000 new infections were reported by state health departments today – surpassing the previous single-day record of 34,203 on April 25.**
- [The International Monetary Fund says](#) the global economic collapse caused by coronavirus will be even worse than feared. By the end of next year, **it is predicted that the pandemic will have cost the global economy \$12.5 trillion in lost output**. Low-income countries are likely to be especially hard hit, with inequality set to worsen.
- As some Wisconsinites transition back to more normal routines, [public health officials say](#) a resurgence of public gatherings has made it difficult to trace the spread of COVID-19.
- A report published by a Tel Aviv research [group found that the coronavirus pandemic](#) has become a vehicle for an intense and exceptional wave of anti-Semitism and anti-Zionist propaganda that accuses Jews and Israel of either causing the virus or standing to benefit from it. The researchers at the Kantor Center at Tel Aviv University also pointed to anti-Semitic sentiments by those who see the virus as divine punishment of Jews to Holocaust imagery used by those protesting lockdown restrictions. [A recent Oxford University study](#) found that 19.1% of the public in Britain believes to some degree that Jews caused the coronavirus pandemic. Jews are not alone in feeling rising hate. Researchers have noted increases in xenophobia as countries close their borders along with conspiracy theories that blame China for the spread of the virus.
- [A top U.S. health official estimates](#) that **for every confirmed coronavirus case, there are 10 more that are undiagnosed**. Robert Redfield, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, said that young people are driving the recent surge in

cases in parts of the South and West. **He estimated that 92 to 95 percent of the U.S. population is still susceptible to the virus.** The [CDC has revised its forecast](#) and now **predicts between 130,000 and 150,000 deaths nationwide by mid-July.** [Texas has paused its reopening](#) as the state struggles to contain a surge of coronavirus cases and hospitalizations.

- Dozens of Secret Service officers and agents who were on site for President Trump's rally in Tulsa last week were [ordered to self-quarantine](#) after two of their colleagues tested positive for the novel coronavirus. The Secret Service instructed employees who worked the Tulsa event to stay at home for 14 days when they returned from the weekend trip. It is still unknown how the rally may have impacted Tulsa's count of coronavirus cases, which are rising swiftly. Tulsa County hit a new record Wednesday, with 259 new confirmed cases.
- In New York, [coronavirus hospitalizations dipped just below 1,000](#) for the first time since March 18.
- [Macy's is laying off 3,900 corporate employees and managers](#), and Chuck E. Cheese's parent company [filed for bankruptcy protection](#), both influenced by the coronavirus' impact on sales. Coronavirus-related store closures and a precipitous drop in sales have roiled the retail industry, which was in trouble long before the pandemic. Six national retailers – including department store chains J.C. Penny and Neiman Marcus – have filed for bankruptcy since May, as companies run out of cash.
- The World Health Organization [said the global pandemic's hotbed](#) is now in Latin America, which has reported 100,000 fatalities this week. [New flare-ups have also been reported](#) in Australia, Germany and South Korea. Within the countries in questions, the new flare-ups are mostly rooted in identifiable regions, where officials launched or expanded aggressive containment efforts this week. In some countries, new measures are not yet in place, but rising infection numbers have prompted officials to warn that strict control measures could return in coming days. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu urged compliance with social distancing measures, [warning that the country](#) could otherwise return to lockdowns.
- More than half of fundraisers [expect to raise less money in 2020 than they did in 2019](#), and an equal percentage believe that will also be the case in 2021, according to a survey of the Association of Fundraising Professionals members conducted in May. Human-service organizations are significantly more optimistic than fundraisers for other causes, and larger charities appear to be faring better as well.
- [Marquette University says](#) it faces a financial risk of about \$20 million to \$25 million as it looks toward fiscal year 2020-21 because of the coronavirus crisis. The figure could end up higher depending on the final enrollment figure for its first-year students, attrition among returning students and whether students live on campus for part of all of the academic year, among other factors. Marquette stands at 16% below what it budgeted for incoming first-year students. The university said the drop in enrollment will affect this year and the years to come. As a result, Marquette is planning a variety of responses to mitigate its short-term risk. Those steps include suspending its contributions to retirement plans for the 2020-21 fiscal year and reducing salaries for university leadership. Merit increases were canceled for the year, which Marquette expects will

save the school \$4 million. The university is also reducing discretionary spending by 10% campus-wide for the next fiscal year, which is expected to save about \$6 million. Non-essential hiring activities are still paused. The school emphasized it will resume on-campus operations this fall if medical and government authorities say that step is safe.

- Los Angeles County [has the most coronavirus infections](#) of any American county and [has more infections than all but 7 states](#). New York City Burroughs are treated as separate counties.
- Nevada will now [require facemasks in public](#) after a statewide order.
- [Disney announced](#) it would **delay the reopening** of its California theme parks until it receives state approval. **The parks were set to reopen on Friday, July 17.**
- The Labor Department [reported](#) Americans filed more than 1.5 million new unemployment claims and 700,000 self-employed unemployment claims last week.
- A top official at the World Health Organization has [warned that the coronavirus pandemic](#) is entering a “new and dangerous phase.” **Eighty-one countries have seen a growth in new cases over the past two weeks. Only 36 have seen declines.** Beijing and Seoul have had a recent surge. In Florida, Oklahoma, South Carolina, and Arizona daily counts of new cases reached their highest levels so far of the pandemic this week. Austin, TX has seen confirmed cases double in the past month. [Track the global outbreak](#) with *The New York Times*.
- As Italy opens up to its residents, Europe and, eventually, the rest of the world, [businesses in Rome are trying to figure out](#) how to navigate an Eternal City without the daily traffic of tourists and full offices. The Centro Storico, Rome’s historic center, has long relied on tourism to support many of its restaurants and food services.
- In Japan, a telecom magnate, Masayoshi Son, has [taken the lead with a combination of antibody and diagnostic tests](#) that offers a model for others as parts of the world look to reopen their economies. Diagnostic polymerase chain reaction, or PCR, tests still are not widely available in Japan to determine who is infected and potentially contagious.
- White House trade adviser Peter Navarro said the [Trump administration is stocking up](#) in preparation for a possible second wave of COVID-19 in the fall.
- Some businesses, [like Apple and AMC Theaters](#), are now readjusting their reopening plans. [AMC had initially said](#) that masks would be optional for guests, but after public outcry reversed that policy. AMC movie-goers will be able to buy masks for \$1. If they refuse to wear one, they will not be allowed to stay. AMC will reduce auditorium capacities to 30% or less, clean each auditorium between movie showings, check temperatures of employees daily, require cashless transactions at concessions and reduce food options at concessions so lines will be shorter.
- [Transit systems in the Washington, D.C. suburbs](#) are beginning to ramp up service that was reduced or canceled when the region shut down because of the coronavirus pandemic. Some bus systems are restoring routes and increasing frequency, coinciding with the reopening of businesses as the region eases restrictions. Even as more transit options become available this summer, officials say it could be months before normal operations return. Most transit systems, including Metro, plan to continue operating on reduced schedules for the immediate future.
- Louisiana State University’s football team [had at least a quarter of its roster](#) – 30 of 115 players – in quarantine because of virus-related concerns, with that number remaining fluid based on test results.

- Despite the hiring of hundreds of new employees, the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) is [still struggling to tackle hundreds of thousands of unpaid claims](#) for those who lost their jobs due to the COVID-19 pandemic and warns backlogs may persist into mid-August. So far, the department has hired 334 people to help staff the unemployment division and is still recruiting for 13 more positions. Some of those hires will be considered “temporary” and won’t work beyond the end of the flood of pandemic-related claims, but others will stay on permanently. In addition to the hires by the department, there are also contracts with three different call centers, which will add over 800 people to answer calls and help with adjudication. Employees are focusing on older claims first, trying to tackle them in the order they came in. The department is hoping to return to “normal” by mid-August, meaning that all claims related to the pandemic will have been addressed. Another concern that remains is whether the department will be able to handle a second wave of furloughs and business closures if coronavirus cases were to spike again. Even with the slowing number of calls, there’s still a need for changes to prevent situations like these from occurring again. Solutions could range from investing in a new unemployment system to permanently getting rid of the waiting period on unemployment benefits.
- Wisconsin’s unemployment rate [crept down 1.6 percentage points](#) to 12.0% last month as businesses began transitioning back to more normal operations, despite public health concerns of COVID-19. DWD will release local and metropolitan area unemployment data next week. Jobs in retail, leisure and hospitality saw some of the biggest gains last month, although no industry has recovered to anywhere near the 2.8% unemployment rate of April and May last year.
- Thirty-six nursing homes in Wisconsin [have reported](#) a total of 124 COVID-19 deaths, according to new federal data that updates and changes previously released figures. The 36 facilities each reported at least one death from the coronavirus as of June 7, according to [information released this week](#) by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.
- Wisconsin’s economy ranked last in racial equality among all 50 U.S. states according to [a new study of wealth and employment gaps](#) between black and white residents. Only the District of Columbia ranked lower. Wisconsin had the highest disparities between its black and white residents in both median annual household income and labor force participation rate. WalletHub – a personal finance website that completed the study – calculated a 107% racial income gap for the state, meaning that the median yearly income for a white household in Wisconsin is more than double that of a black household. The analysis also indicated that Wisconsin has the second-highest poverty rate gap in the country – a 23% difference between white and black Wisconsinites – with only Maine’s being larger.
- The City of Milwaukee Health Department published a [COVID-19 Issue Brief](#) documenting increasing number of COVID-19 cases among Hispanic/Latinx individuals under the age of 15 in the city of Milwaukee. Out of all COVID-19 cases in the City of Milwaukee, Hispanic/Latinx positive cases account for 40.2% of cases, while positive cases for Black individuals is 31.4% and 11.3% for White individuals. In the city of Milwaukee, individuals who are Hispanic/Latinx make up only 20.2% of the population,

but 40.2% of positive COVID-19 cases. This inequity is also reflected in State COVID-19 data where individuals who are Hispanic/Latinx make up 7% of the population in Wisconsin, but account for 38% of COVID-19 cases. Furthermore, Hispanics/Latinx test positive for COVID-19 at disproportionate rates in 42 states. The Hispanic/Latinx population are overrepresented in essential jobs that increase exposure to COVID-19 and are less likely to have paid sick leave. These essential jobs often have low wages and individuals may feel that they are required to leave their home for work, possibly even while sick. Multi-generational housing and living in densely populated areas may be more common for Hispanic/Latinx households and neighborhoods that can increase exposure to COVID-19.

- Here's a ["playbook" with some basic rules](#) for lowering risk while still enjoying life during the coronavirus pandemic. Public health experts and scientists offer tools to make your own informed decisions from dining out to getting a haircut. Some guidelines include checking the health of your state and community; limiting the number of your close contacts; managing your exposure budget (prioritizing outings); keeping higher risk activities as short as possible; and keep taking pandemic precautions.
- From the *Milwaukee Business Journal*, [here's the research](#) that shows the effectiveness of masks in substantially limiting the spread of COVID-10. National Institutes of Health researchers found that a simple cloth mask blocks nearly all saliva droplets projected into the air when someone talks, versus the spray without a mask. **If 80% of the population wore masks the rate of COVID-19 infection would plummet to 1/12<sup>th</sup> of its current rate. More than 80% mask participation would drop the infection rate to nearly zero.** A face covering for the mouth and nose reduced the distance of an exhaled deep breath by 90%.
- A flurry of [recent studies](#) supports wearing cloth face coverings as a means to limit transmission of coronavirus. To many people, masks represent adherence to civic duty and a willingness to make individual sacrifices for the greater good of public health. To others, masks symbolize government overreach and a violation of personal liberty. Mask-wearing for some people is an identifier of broader beliefs and political leanings. [The pandemic has become yet another thing on which Americans are divided.](#) Former Food and Drug Administration commissioner Scott Gottlieb [said today](#) that masks should have been recommended from the start of the coronavirus pandemic.
- [Kroger Co.'s investments in digital sales](#) through its customer pickup and delivery options paid off once the coronavirus pandemic hit. Kroger's sales through digital channels soared more than 100% in April and May. That contributed to a 92% gain for the quarter in digital sales for downtown Cincinnati-based Kroger, the nation's largest operator of traditional supermarkets, including Pick 'n Save and Metro Market stores in the Milwaukee area. That compares with 22% digital sales growth in the fourth quarter. Consumers stayed at home during the coronavirus-driven lockdown, prompting them to buy more groceries and to use digital channels to limit the chances of spreading the virus. Even though restaurants have reopened in many of Kroger's markets, it's still seeing more shopping volume as customers continue to eat more meals at home than pre-COVID-19.

- Mental health and maternity [experts worry that coronavirus](#) is placing severe stress on new and expecting mothers, increasing their risk of [postpartum depression](#) and other maternal mental health illnesses.