

Press Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Media Contact: Doug Tobin

TobinD@CareerSourceTampaBay.com / (813) 397-2054

Hillsborough County Allocates CARES Act Funding to Life Safety and Economic Development

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FL – Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners voted Wednesday, May 6, 2020 to allocate about \$25 million in funding from the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

The CARES Act money will be used in Hillsborough County to support the Rapid Response Recovery (R3) Program – a wide-ranging program supporting both life safety and economic development. The BOCC also immediately approved allocating \$25 million of the CARES Act funding directly to CareerSource Tampa Bay in order to quickly start workforce training programs.

"Getting our citizens back to work is vital during these tough economic times and it is critically important to help those seeking re-employment to give them the training and skills for a quality, sustainable job opportunity," said Commissioner Sandra Murman about workforce training. "This initiative with the CARES ACT dollars will have a real impact to accelerate our efforts to accelerate our workforce training efforts to get citizens trained and back on their feet and says that Hillsborough County is open for business again."

While the specifics of how the R3 Program funding will be spent have not yet been finalized, the board approved spending the money on programs and projects outlined below.

Economic Recovery Programs

- Workforce Training: \$30 million - \$60 million
- Accelerated Business Recovery - Access to Capital: \$50 million - \$85 million
- Back To Work Grants: \$15 million - \$35 million
- Safe At Work – Mitigation Grants: \$15 million - \$35 million

Life Safety Programs: \$35 million - \$60 million

- Utility/Rent/Mortgage Assistance: \$15 million already committed
- Direct Community Services
- Local Food Purchase and Distribution
- Feeding Tampa Bay
- Metropolitan Ministries
- Government and Community Facility and Operational Safety Improvements

Some of the funding already has been allocated to specific programs with the R3 Program, such as for utility, rent, and mortgage assistance. Hillsborough County will update residents and businesses on the details of the funding as specifics are approved.

Get Connected. Stay Alert.

For more information on COVID-19, and any other potential emergency in the region, visit [HCFLGov.net/StaySafe](https://www.hcflgov.net/StaySafe) and sign up for the HCFL Alert system. Additionally, you can follow Hillsborough County on social media at Facebook, Twitter, and Nextdoor for updates. For general County information, call (813) 272-5900, the County's main information line.

About CareerSource Tampa Bay

CareerSource Tampa Bay programs and initiatives are fully supported by the U.S. Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Agriculture as part of awards totaling \$19,293,411.

CareerSource Tampa Bay works with businesses and candidates to leverage their training, retraining, and competitive opportunities in the workforce. CareerSource Tampa Bay provided 240,269 services to 36,960 active Wagner-Peyser individuals during program year 2018-2019. CareerSource Tampa Bay, with our five career centers is the single largest source of job candidates in the region from entry-level to executive-level candidates.

Businesses can access CareerSource's wide range of services that include recruiting, training for new and existing employees, targeted hiring events, and retention support strategies. All resources and services are provided at no cost to both businesses and job candidates. Programs funded through CareerSource Tampa Bay are equal opportunity programs with auxiliary aids and services available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Persons using TTY/TTD equipment use Florida Relay Service 711. A proud partner of the American Job Center network to learn more, visit www.careersourcetampabay.com.

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