

November 13, 2020 Retail Garden Center Update

Hello MNLA Retail Garden Center Members!

We're pleased to bring you this new small business grant opportunity — The Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Opportunity (LEO) has allocated at least \$3,000,000 in federal CARES Act funds to assist qualified small businesses expand capacity during the cold weather months. These are called Weatherization Grants, in the \$1,000 – \$10,000 range, and are available for commercial firms and nonprofits with **50 or fewer full-time equivalent employees** in these industries:

- Restaurants and/or bars
- Banquet centers
- **Retail stores**
- Gyms and fitness centers

The application process will open on November 18, 2020 at Noon EST and will be awarded to eligible businesses on a first-come, first-served basis. Grants are for projects that add temporary capacity in colder months. This is a reimbursement grant for purchases made between August 1, 2020 – December 30, 2020. Here are some projects that would qualify for this grant:

- Temporary structures, such as canopies, igloos and tents, to cover outdoor seating
- Portable heaters
- Outdoor furniture and tableware
- Outdoor cooking equipment
- Fencing; dividers such as planters, hangings, or Plexiglas panels
- Sanitizing supplies and equipment
- Security devices
- Electronic menu access
- Upgrades necessary to increase capacity for carryout and delivery service
- Delivery charges and labor for installation.

More information can be found on the attached flyer or by going to: www.SBAM.org/weather.

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"The achievements of an organization are the results of the combined effort of each individual." – Vince Lombardi
