

NEWS

Feb. 22, 2021 For Immediate Release

Targeted Relief for Vital Slice of Local Economy:

Grant Applications to Open Monday for Struggling Brickand-Mortar Food and Beverage Industry

Redwood City – San Mateo County restaurants, breweries and wineries that meet eligibility requirements may apply for emergency relief grants starting at noon on Monday, Feb. 22, 2021.

Qualifying businesses are eligible for grants of up to \$10,000 to help pay employees and rent as well as health and safety modifications and other needs caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

An online portal to apply for the Restaurant, Brewery and Winery Relief Program will go live at noon on Monday, Feb. 22, 2021.

The portal is on the San Mateo County Strong Fund website at www.smcstrong.org/restaurantrelief.

The portal includes detailed information regarding eligibility, requirements and responsibilities in English, Spanish, Chinese and Tagalog.

The portal will remain open for two weeks and business owners may apply at any point between this Monday and noon on Monday, March 8.

After all the submitted applications are reviewed, grants will be awarded based on a lottery system with funding allocated to cities based on population.

Need help or have a question? Send an email to <u>restaurantrelief@smcgov.org</u>.

About the Fund:

The San Mateo County Board of Supervisors in January <u>pledged \$1 million in seed money</u> to the relief fund, matching a \$1 million donation from the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative. San Mateo Strong funds are also available as well as additional donations from businesses, foundations and community members.

The San Mateo Country Strong Fund involves a partnership among the County and numerous community-based organizations to provide targeted financial relief for individuals and sectors of the economy hit by the COVID-19 pandemic.

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