FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 12, 2021



The City of Decatur has partnered with Community Investment Corporation of Decatur, Inc. (CICD) to administer a Small Business COVID Assistance Grant. This grant will provide short term assistance to businesses that are located and have employees in low to moderate income census tract areas. These funds are being made available to prevent, prepare, and respond to the impacts of coronavirus on our local businesses. **The Small Business COVID Assistance Grant will begin accepting applications on February 16th at 12:00 PM CST.** We encourage you to gather necessary documents and prepare your submission in advance of the application going live as applications will be considered in the order they are received.

This program is for businesses with up to twenty-five (25) employees. The program is set-up to pay the vendor, utility, landlord, and/or mortgage company directly for past due bills only. Program assistance will be a minimum of \$2,000 up to \$10,000 per business. To better serve our businesses, the City and CICD have partnered with Forward to create a free online portal that connects local businesses in the City of Decatur to a comprehensive list of resources, including grants, loans, credits, offers, and local incentives.

For more information about the guidelines and qualifications and to apply online, visit the <u>City of Decatur COVID-19 webpage</u>, <u>CICD's website</u>, or the <u>Forward webpage</u>. If you have questions or concerns, please contact CICD staff for assistance at (217) 423-0352. This grant program is in addition to the City-run, Small Business Rapid Relief Funds program.

Community Investment Corporation of Decatur, Inc. (CICD) 217-423-0352