**3 for the 3rd**

Regular Updates on COVID-19 in Michigan’s Third Congressional District

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**Number of Cases in Michigan:**

99,200

**Number of Cases in Our District:**

8,938

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**1. Public Health**

Remember: Social Distancing helps. It’s the most effective way to protect yourself, your family, and your community. You can find Governor Whitmer’s most recent guidelines [here](#), her 6 phases for reopening [here](#), and the MI Safe Start Map [here](#).

**Safety Steps from the CDC:**
- Cover your nose and mouth with a mask when you leave your home
- If you have to leave the house, practice social distancing, keeping 6ft of distance in between yourself and others, even if you feel healthy.
- Clean your hands and frequently touched surfaces often.

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**2. Economic Impact**

Over 117,000 Michigan businesses have been hurt by nationwide safety measures. This pandemic affects more than just our physical health: millions are unexpectedly financially vulnerable and we cannot discount this stress. Here are some resources:

- The Michigan Strategic Fund Board has approved $20 million in support for Michigan businesses impacted by COVID-19. For information, visit the [Michigan Economic Development Cooperation website](#) or call their small business hotline (888.522.0103).

- To apply for unemployment benefits in Michigan, visit the [Michigan Unemployment Insurance Agency](#). A step by step guideline can be found [here](#). You can complete the entire process online, but if you have questions, the Michigan Works! hotline is ready to help (1-800-285-9675). Benefits are now available for 26 weeks.

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**State Resources**

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**Continued**
Over 20 million Americans have filed unemployment claims. Many more face economic uncertainty. Through the CARES Act and this legislation, relief is came in the Spring for individuals and small businesses.

- **Direct payments of $1,200 through the CARES Act** were provided directly to taxpayers who earn up to $75,000 a year, with an additional $500 per child provided to families. This aid continued in smaller increments up to those earning $99,000 per year. For more information, here are some answered FAQs.

- **A Temporary Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation** of $600 a week was provided through the end of July, 2020 for anyone eligible for state or federal unemployment benefits. For updates on this relief package, click here, and for more information on what Congress is negotiating for the next stimulus package, click here.

- **The U.S. Small Business Administration’s Emergency Injury Disaster Loan** program has been expanded, and Michigan small businesses can apply now online or by calling (1-800-659-2955). Visit the SBA’s website for more information on their response to the coronavirus and additional resources. The Michigan Small Business Development Center has also added helpful webinars and resources to their website for navigating the SBA application processes.

### 3. Ways You Can Help

Even as we struggle together, we have opportunities to come alongside one another to offer support and encouragement. If you are able, here are some ways you can help.

**Fight Food Insecurity:** Kid’s Food Basket or Meals on Wheels COVID response fund for seniors.

**Fight housing Insecurity:** Heart of West Michigan United Way website or #: 2-1-1

**Caring for Seniors:** Sign up as an Aging Service Volunteer or make cards for residents at Emmanuel Hospice.

**Donate blood:** in a location near you.

Heart of West Michigan United Way Volunteer Page can be found here.

The State of Michigan’s Volunteer Page can be found here.