



COUNTY OF AMHERST



Public Information Officer

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For Immediate Release

December 17, 2020

Amherst County Awards 65 Grants

In July of 2020, the County Board of Supervisors set aside money from the County's Federal CARES ACT funding to provide grants for Amherst County businesses and nonprofit organizations. As of December 17, 2020 all of these funds have been distributed.

Over the past six months the County awarded forty-nine small business grants totaling \$450,000 and sixteen nonprofit grants totaling \$200,000.

To qualify for the grant, businesses must have been in operation for at least a year before March 1, 2020 and have reduced revenue caused by COVID-19. Grant funds were used to pay rent or mortgage, utility bills, re-opening expenses, marketing, and re-hiring or hiring of employees.

Nonprofit organizations that operate exclusively in Amherst County, as well as regional organizations that have served in Amherst county for at least a year, were also eligible for grant money. Organizations had to prove either a 10% loss in donations or a 10% increase in operating costs. Grant funds were used for rent or mortgage, utilities, necessary PPE supplies, or other needs.

Additional information may be obtained from Joy Niehaus at jlnehaus@countyofamherst.com or (434)-946-9400.