

# **Battle Creek Unlimited Establishes \$500,000 Emergency Loan Fund for Small Businesses Affected by Executive Order No. 2020-9**



**Press Release**

For Immediate Release

## **Battle Creek Unlimited Establishes \$500,000 Emergency Small Business Loan Fund**

### **For Impacted Businesses of Executive Order No. 2020-9**

**March 19, 2020, Battle Creek, Michigan** - During this historical time of uncertainty, Battle Creek Unlimited has established an emergency small business loan fund for food & beverage businesses located in the City of Battle Creek that have been adversely affected by Executive Order No. 2020-9.

The federal government is currently in the process of approving emergency funds to the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). The SBA will be working directly with the Governor to provide targeted, low-interest loans to small businesses and non-profits that have been severely impacted by the Coronavirus (COVID-19). While we applaud the state and federal government for their swift action, we acknowledge that this process will take time, time our local businesses and their staff will not be able to afford. Effective immediately, Battle Creek Unlimited will be offering emergency low-interest loans to local small food & beverage businesses that meet specific criteria. To see if your business qualifies, go to our resource page at [battlecreekcovid-19.com](http://battlecreekcovid-19.com), which will go live on Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 p.m.

“Battle Creek is our community, our home. The people who work here are our neighbors and friends. Over the last couple of years, the transformation of Battle Creek, in particular downtown, has been exciting to watch. It is difficult to see the hopes, dreams, and hard work of so many people suffer, business owners and employees alike,” said Joe Sobieralski, President & CEO of Battle Creek Unlimited. “That is why Battle Creek Unlimited wants to do our part in helping our neighbors. This emergency loan fund will allow our most vulnerable businesses to remain viable during this concerning time. We understand that there will be many needs beyond this, but it is a start.”

BCU would like to thank our Board of Directors, the Direct Investment Committee, and staff for coming together to quickly address this need in our community. By working together as a community, we will navigate through this challenging global pandemic crisis. Our thoughts and hearts go out to those most directly affected.

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#### **ABOUT BATTLE CREEK UNLIMITED**

*Established in 1972, Battle Creek Unlimited (BCU) is a private, non-profit corporation which serves as the economic development arm for the City of Battle Creek and manages the Fort Custer Industrial Park. The Fort Custer Industrial Park is home to over 80 businesses, including 25 international companies, and employs over 13,000 people. BCU's mission is to build a strong community by driving strategic investment and job creation.*

#### **MEDIA CONTACTS**

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