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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**DATE:** April 22, 2020

### **Washington County COVID-19 Response Fund Helping Local Businesses**

Nearly 30 applications have been submitted to the Washington County COVID-19 Response Fund (Fund), created under the City of Brenham Community Projects Fund, Inc. (BCPF), a 501(c)(3) organization, as of April 22, 2020. The Fund, managed and administered by a Fund Oversight Committee made of up Susan Cantey, Leon Toubin, and John Barnhill, will begin disbursements to qualifying small businesses early next week. "I am especially glad to be a part of this City of Brenham effort to help small businesses at this historic moment in our lifetimes," says City Council Member, Susan Canty. She continues, "Once a small business owner in downtown Brenham, I have great empathy for entrepreneurs. Patience, perseverance, and guts will win the day."

"We established the Washington County COVID-19 Response Fund to provide grants to our most at-risk small businesses, those with fewer than 20 full-time employees," said Susan Cates, Director of Economic Development.

The Fund has received approximately \$15,000 to date. Qualifying small businesses may be granted anywhere from \$500 to \$3,000. Of the 30 applicants, over \$200,000 has been requested.

If community members are interested in donating to this tax-deductible fund, additional information is available at [www.BrenhamED.com/covidresponsefund](http://www.BrenhamED.com/covidresponsefund) or you can contact [SCates@CityofBrenham.org](mailto:SCates@CityofBrenham.org) or 979-337-7231.

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