**Imagination Library Coming to Wyandot County**

Many area businesses and service organizations have banned together to bring Dolly Parton's Imagination Library program to Wyandot County.  The WCOED has served on a local steering committee to establish our program, which will provide free books mailed monthly to any child under 5 who registers.  Wyandot County is slated to begin offering this, program proven to positively impact early childhood literacy, beginning May 1st.

Additional funding is still needed to meet program goals and cover expansion in subsequent years.

Please visit [www.wyandotcommunityfoundation.org](http://www.wyandotcommunityfoundation.org/) for more information.

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**First Federal Partners with JobsOhio for Additional Small Business Funding**

Local banking partner and WCOED member, [First Federal Bank](https://www.first-fedbanking.com/), has partnered with the state economic development entity, JobsOhio, to offer additional financing to area small businesses affected by COVID-19.

[**Find additional information in the JobsOhio Press Release here.**](http://www.wyandotcountyeconomicdevelopment.com/first-federal-partners-with-jobsohio-for-additional-small-business-funding/)

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**U.S. Chamber of Commerce Program Awarding $5,000 Small Business Grants**

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce has started its Save Small Business Grant Fund, which provides $5,000 supplemental grants to economically-vulnerable businesses with 3 - 20 employees.  Qualifying businesses must be located in an economically vulnerable community, and must have been harmed financially by the COVID-19 pandemic.

[**Visit the Save Small Business Website for more information.**](https://www.savesmallbusiness.com/)

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**COVID-19 "Stimulus 3.5" Legislation Moving Through Congress**

The fourth federal legislative measure in response to the COVID-19 crisis passed the Senate earlier this week, and is expected to pass today in the House of Representatives. The bill proposes an additional $300 billion for the SBA’s Paycheck Protection Program, $50 billion for the SBA’s disaster relief fund, $75 billion for hospitals and $25 billion for testing.  Those interested in the Paycheck Protection Program should work with your lender ASAP, as it is anticipated that much of this additional program funding could already be accounted for in existing program applications waiting in line.  The SBA disaster relief fund on the other hand is a direct SBA program where [applications are processed directly through the SBA's website portal](https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/).

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**Greg Moon**

Executive Director - Wyandot County Office of Economic Development

Executive Director - Wyandot County Regional Planning Commission

Wyandot County Courthouse | 109 S Sandusky Ave., Room 16, Upper Sandusky, OH 43351

419-294-6404 Office | 614-581-6823 Mobile | 419-294-6415 Fax

gmoon@wcoed.com  |  [www.wyandotcountyeconomicdevelopment.com](http://www.wyandotcountyeconomicdevelopment.com/)