



July 13, 2020

Ms. Alison Lehman, County Executive Officer
County of Nevada
950 Maidu Avenue
Nevada City, CA 95959

RE: Coronavirus Relief Funds

Dear County Executive Officer Lehman:

On behalf of the Nevada County Fairgrounds, please accept this letter of support for the County of Nevada to accept Coronavirus Relief Funds from the State of California, and to use \$3 million of the available funding to support economic and community resiliency.

This proposed funding for economic and community resiliency comes at a critical time. The availability of financial resources in the very short term will influence, if not outright determine, the survival of many small businesses, non-profits, and local organizations – from the smallest start-up to the community anchors that have persevered for generations.

The decisions we collectively face and make during this time of the COVID-19 Pandemic will have a profound impact on the future of Nevada County. I implore you and the Board of Supervisors to maximize this unique opportunity by utilizing the relief funding to help secure a future for those businesses, organizations and institutions that would benefit from the micro and macro grant programs.

Thank you for your leadership during this difficult and unprecedented time.

Regards,

Patrick A. Eidman, Chief Executive Officer
Nevada County Fairgrounds

Town Council

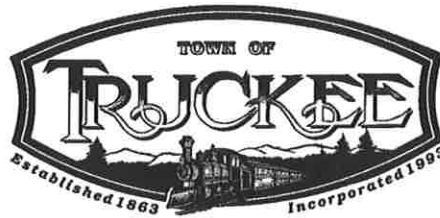
David Polivy, Mayor

Anna Klovstad, Vice Mayor

Jessica Abrams, Council Member

David Tirman, Council Member

Tony Commendatore, Council Member



Department Heads

Kim Szczurek, Acting Town Manager

Andy Morris, Town Attorney

Randall Billingsley, Acting Chief of Police

Kim Szczurek, Administrative Services Director

Judy Price, Communications Director/Town Clerk

Daniel Wilkins, Public Works Director/Town Engineer

Denyelle Nishimori, Community Development Director

Alison Lehman, Nevada County CEO
Nevada County Board of Supervisors
950 Maidu Avenue
Nevada City, CA 95959

July 13, 2020

Dear Ms. Lehman and Honorable Board:

This letter addresses agenda item "Resolution accepting Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) in the amount of \$10,004,000 from the State of California" included on your Board's July 14, 2020 meeting.

The Town of Truckee is appreciative of the County staff recommendations on the distribution of a portion of the CRF funds received by the County for critical local support of our business, non-profits and community information and compliance efforts. The entire county is feeling the economic effects of the COVID19 pandemic and we realize that we are in this for the long haul. Recognizing some of the very localized significant impacts will help our community to stay vital through this time.

The Town looks forward to being involved in the ongoing discussion on the more refined plans and requirements for the distribution of these funds and will continue to work collaboratively with your staff in this effort. Together we'll make it through this!

Best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kim Szczurek", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kim Szczurek
Acting Town Manager
Town of Truckee

July 11, 2020
Nevada County Board of Supervisors and County Executive Officer
950 Maidu Avenue
Nevada City, CA 95959

Dear CEO and Supervisors,

Thank you for your generous consideration of the anchor institutions in our community. I am writing to appeal to the Board of Supervisors and County CEO to allocate generous funds to Nevada County arts organizations from CARES act money in order to protect our county's most precious and impactful resources.

Arts organizations in Nevada County do more than stimulate the economy; they serve to enhance the quality of life here in a way that differentiates our county from many others in the Sierra foothills. Without these organizations' influence, our community would lose much of its attraction to both current and prospective residents. Those individuals most adversely impacted are more than likely to be affluent, educated, and in the best position to contribute to our community in ways that benefit all, including those less fortunate.

In my personal experience as a board member for The Center for the Arts, I can attest to the extreme lengths to which arts organizations are going to cope with the mandated closure and limitations brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. Operations have been cut to the bone, and fund-raising activities (donations) have been stretched to the limit. CARES monies would be extremely beneficial in the present circumstances, enabling The Center and other arts organizations to survive for our future betterment. Likewise, these funds would help some organizations adapt offerings in ways that help produce much needed revenue, while providing our community with some level of entertainment, education, and enrichment even during the pandemic-related limitations.

My wife and I have owned a home and paid taxes in Nevada County since 2002, and been permanent residents since 2012. During the 10 years we spent coming here for weekends, holidays, and vacations we came to appreciate the robust cultural opportunities of the area and so, when it was time to determine where to live once we retired, choosing Nevada County was easy. Most of our friends feel likewise.

We sincerely appreciate your positive consideration for helping to maintain the specialness of Nevada County.

Best regards,
Roger Stover
18784 Meadowlark Ct
Penn Valley, CA 95946

July 11, 2020

Supervisor Heidi Hall, Chair, Nevada County Board of Supervisors

Dear Supervisor Heidi,

I received a call from Alison Lehman early last week asking about the financial situation with the Miners Foundry Cultural Center. I understand the County of Nevada is going to be discussing the funding received from the CARES Act and we really need your support to advocate for us.

When we began the stay-at-home order on March 19th, we had a nice cushion saved. We felt it was not necessary to sound the alarm bells at that time and believed strongly that our community needed to gather its own bearings before we reached out to ask for help.

Although the Miners Foundry building was closed to the public beginning March 12th, staff has been diligently working behind the scenes. We immediately began researching and applying for every possible grant or loan that would help sustain our 161 year old building and continue our mission of serving Nevada County. We also laid off all non-essential personnel and cancelled all nonessential services. At the end of March, we immediately applied for and received the PPP funds and applied for and are still waiting to receive the EIDL funds.

Because we are a community gathering space and event venue, we are not able to function as such and have lost all our traditional sources of revenue. Since March we have lost over \$200,000 in revenue. We are currently running at a 50K deficit each month and at this point predict we will be out of cash by September. If this happens, the Miners Foundry Cultural Center will need to close our doors.

As the majority of our events are classified within Stage 4, it quickly became apparent "business as usual" would not be returning to the Miners Foundry any time soon. Drawing inspiration from our mission and the long history of the building, we decided to pivot and launch a new business allowing us to continue to serve our community and for our community to be able to enjoy the beloved Foundry.

Our goal is to continue to fulfill our mission of serving our community and providing a gathering space for historical, educational, cultural, and social activities in Nevada County. No one wants to see the Foundry turned into a retail space with multiple shops, a sake factory, or even demolished. Historic buildings as unique and beautiful as the Miners Foundry carry the cherished memories of each generation forward. To lose such a monumental shared community experience would be devastating to Nevada City and Nevada County. With a type 47 liquor license (restaurant and bar), a commercial kitchen, and an extremely large and flexible space, we decided to open a bar and cafe, and when allowed, a gathering place for smaller numbers. We plan to offer Sunday brunches in the near future and continue to brainstorm new and creative ways the space can be enjoyed by our community in a safe and healthy environment. The Miners Foundry is essentially starting a new business and we are very undercapitalized. *We cannot borrow our way out of this situation.* We need support as we move through these stages.

Once (if) we get to Stage 4, the plan is to shift back to providing a space for the community to gather in larger numbers. The staff and board at the Foundry are very adept and skilled at shifting and we are used to being flexible, so these changes will not be as much of a challenge for us as they might for others. We are also extremely fortunate to be the caregivers of a large, flexible space. The Miners Foundry has demonstrated repeatedly over the last 161 years it has the ability to pivot and support the needs of our community.

The Foundry is an essential and integral part of the community and closing our doors is not an option the City and County can afford. I have attached a 2018 Economic Impact report of the Foundry. This is using the multipliers determined by the Americans for the Arts. We consider these numbers to be much higher because weddings generate far more revenue for a community than the arts per dollar spent. Multiple sectors of our community benefit tremendously from the continued operation of the Foundry including restaurants, hotels, shops, family businesses, performing and visual artists, vendors and those who are self-employed.

We have been here for the community for nearly every disaster or cause as well as in times of celebration. Whenever there is an emergency need in the community, the Foundry is there, willing and able to provide the space for all of us to gather together in support of a cause and each other. It's time for the City of Nevada City, County of Nevada and our beloved Community to come together in support of this historic venue that holds the hearts of so many people in the community. We hope we will receive the same enthusiastic support from the County that we have so wholeheartedly given over the decades.

I encourage you and the other members of the Board of Supervisors to vote in favor of providing the Miners Foundry Cultural Center with the necessary CARES Act funding to keep us intact during these times.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

In gratitude,

Gretchen H. Bond, Executive Director

July 13, 2020

Nevada County Board of Supervisors

Dear Supervisors,

Thank you for considering the allocation of Cares Act funds to the arts in Nevada County.

Being strong supporters and funders of the arts in our community, my husband and I want to encourage you to give generously to the arts from the Cares Act funding at this time. We realize that every organization is suffering and in need of your largess. Our plea for the arts reflects the need to give people something uplifting, soul touching and heartfelt to lift their spirits and keep positive energy flowing. At the same time, the arts provide jobs and income to our community through attendance at the many productions created by our artistic residents. The more productions that are happening in our community, the more people will get out, spend money in local establishments and attend our excellent artistic activities such as theater, music, art galleries, poetry and book readings and more.

The Center for the Arts is in special need as the brand new facility has not been able to open and provide the service for which so many people in our community have given.

We thank you in advance for your support of the arts in Nevada County.

Sincerely,

Julia Amaral and Mark Strate

July 11, 2020
Nevada County Board of Supervisors and County Executive Officer
950 Maidu Avenue
Nevada City, CA 95959

Dear CEO and Supervisors,

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We sincerely appreciate your positive consideration for helping to maintain the specialness of Nevada County.

Best regards,
Roger Stover
18784 Meadowlark Ct
Penn Valley, CA 95946

Dear Nevada County Board of Supervisors

I am writing to request support from the Board of Supervisors in support of Cares Act Funding for arts and culture anchor institutions in our community. I have served as Vice President of the Board for The Center for the Arts for the last six years and would like to share with you some of the benefits we have brought to Nevada County.

What CFTA has Done

For over 20 years the Center has provided our county with a venue that has brought artists covering a broad range of musical & theatrical shows to the county. Over time we have been able to attract nationally known artists into our community. The compliment we receive from arts is typically that they love our community, the patrons really appreciate their music & they'd be happy to come back. Beyond the impact to county residents, we attract audiences from outside our county who regularly patronize local restaurants and hotels.

Beyond musical & theatrical performances we also The Center also does the following:

- Open Studios Tour which highlights the work of the counties' many artists.
- Summer education classes for children exposing them to The Arts

Center Renovation

To be competitive with other venues in Northern California and provide a better experience for our patrons we embarked on a campaign to raise plans to renovate our theater. This has resulted in a 500 seat theater with the best sound system outside of the Bay Area that will attract even more patrons to our county. It was interesting to note that during the construction period we received comments from local restaurants and bars that they had noticed a dropoff in their business because of the lack of shows being put on by The Center.

Our renovation effort was recently completed and opened for its first show just before the Covid crisis forced a shutdown.

Center Adapting to Current Situation

The Center has adapted to our current situation. With the lack of shows that have traditionally provided 60% of our revenue, we raised funds from donors to support our activities.

We are currently offering Summer Arts Education courses for children & have adapted these programs to operate with the safety guidelines the county & other authorities provided. We think it is extremely important to provide these opportunities for children to experience the Arts as part of their educational opportunities.

With additional funding through the Cares Acts Funding program we can extend these types of programs into the future to augment Children's education. We are looking to offer education programs that can be scheduled to be compatible with upcoming Fall School schedules. This also provides a needed break from parents in caring for their children while enhancing their education. I urge your support for The Center for the Arts using Cares Act Funding – it will be a great investment for our community.

Sincerely,

Richard Bergquist
Center for the Arts Board Vice President
13515 Lakeview Place
Auburn, CA 95602

To: Board of Supervisors, Nevada County

Re: Meeting on Tuesday, July 14, 2020

I have been advised that at this meeting you will be considering the allocation of Coronavirus Relief funds. My wife and I are twenty plus year residents of Nevada County and have maintained an active interest in maintaining and supporting local non-profits. We believe that they are a critical part of the uniqueness and strength of the communities in Nevada County.

The Arts Organizations are often first on the chopping block as scarce resources are focused on the humanitarian needs; we would argue that you consider them as a proven vital ingredient to the overall health of our County. They should not be considered as expendable.

This is especially true in the case of organizations that stand to lose physical assets that are the key to performing their mission and therefore not likely to be “resuscitated” at the end of the pandemic.

The Center for the Arts is one of these. The newly rebuilt state of the art facility is the “crown jewel” of our Arts Community and provides economic stimulus to businesses within a wide radius of its Grass Valley location.

Please give The Center for the Arts your critical consideration in determining the allocation of the relief funds.

Lynn Kerby

July 14, 2020



Nevada County Board of Supervisors
950 Maidu Ave, Ste 220
Nevada City, CA 95959

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I would like to applaud Nevada County Board of Supervisors for their strong commitment to those institutions that are anchors in Nevada County. Anchor institutions throughout our community closed their doors in March 2020. However, the work has continued. Our creative institutions have been responding to the crisis and developing new initiatives to offer families relief through the arts.

Anchor cultural institutions play a vital role in our local community and generate more than \$40 million in total economic activity for Nevada County. For years we have developed strong neighborhood and business partnerships, which help to promote and sustain hundreds of local businesses and make a cultural statement that unifies us all. Our anchor cultural institutions need the support of the Board of Supervisors in order to continue our rich financial and individual contributions in Nevada County.

At The Center for the Arts we pride ourselves on our resilience and acknowledge that the entire artist community of Nevada County shares in that spirit. The arts are uniquely able to promote empathy and compassion. Empathy in our community teaches us how to treat others with respect, work together to solve problems, and be a part of our community. These are qualities that will only be more vital in a post Covid world.

The Center has been an anchor institution in our community for 20 years. It may be many months before The Center or any of the anchor institutions in this community again receive revenue from ticket sales and many more months before a vaccine is developed and the public feels safe attending a full capacity event. In the interim if we want the arts to survive in Nevada County, we need your investment. Preserving the arts is critical to the recovery of our businesses and the local economy.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Warm regards,
Amber Jo Manuel
Executive Director

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Amber Jo Manuel

P.O. Box 4576
Rolling Bay, WA 98061
13 July 2020

Nevada County Board of Supervisors
950 Maidu Avenue
Nevada City, CA 95959

After forty-three years in Nevada City we recently relocated to Washington. The biggest and most important part of our lives were spent in Nevada County.

I am aware that the County has Cares Act funding that they may allocate to the Arts. I suspect that you need no reminding of how the art community contributes to the whole community. From an economic stimulus to bringing the outside world to school aged kids, The Center for the Arts is a big contributor to the vibrancy of the community.

Restaurants, bars, shops, wineries, and lodging all benefit by having CFTA in downtown Grass Valley. I can only assume how big the negative ripple is from The Center being dark. Obviously, the community sees value in the CFTA as evidenced by the capital campaign (as we did as contributors). The pandemic shutdown coming on the heels of the construction shutdown could not have come at a worse time. We need The Center for the financial well-being of Grass Valley.

Aside from the important financial impact of CFTA, I feel that what their programing brings to the community is extremely beneficial to the community's health. Diversity in both music and artists are a positive, especially for our youth.

I thank you for considering the arts, and specifically The Center for the Arts, for the allocation of the Care Act funds.

Susie Bavo