

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

Miners Foundry Cultural Center – Economic Impact Report

2018

Economic Impact per \$100,000 of direct spending by the Miners Foundry (Foundry) and per \$100,000 of direct spending by audiences/event attendees (Foundry events)

Full-time Equivalent Jobs supported by the Foundry =	15
Local government revenue generated by the Foundry =	\$13,524
Local event-related spending generated by the Foundry* =	\$1,157,162
Non-local spending generated by Foundry events =	\$1,268,652
Total event-related spending generated by events=	\$2, 325,814
Full-time equivalent jobs supported by Foundry events=	35
Local revenue generated by Foundry events =	\$113,997
Total resident income supported by local spending=	\$802,772
Total resident income supported by the Foundry=	\$369,278
Total local spending generated by the Foundry & Foundry events:	\$2,325,814
Total Nevada City Revenue generated by the Foundry & local spending:	\$127,521
Total Resident Income supported by the Foundry and local spending:	\$1,172,050
Total Local Economic Impact of the Miners Foundry:	\$3,625,385
Total Full-time equivalent jobs supported by the Foundry & local spending:	50

These figures were determined using the Arts and Economic Prosperity Calculator developed by Americans for the Arts in partnership with Nevada County Arts Council. The project researchers calculated the economic impact per \$100,000 of direct spending by nonprofit arts & cultural organizations and their audiences.

******Please note that because the Foundry hosts over 65 weddings per year, 95% of which are all from out of town, we believe our economic impact to be much greater than this, however, the calculator does not take wedding revenue into consideration. Wedding revenue is included and calculated as an arts event.*

* Not including ticket sales or rental income to the Foundry

#41
Town Council

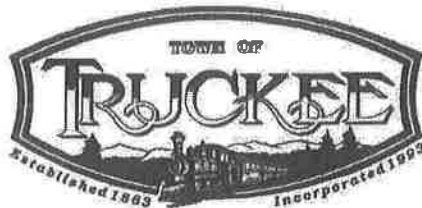
David Polivy, Mayor

Anna Klovsad, 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,

Kim Szczurek
Acting Town Manager
Town of Truckee

#41



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

#41

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

#241

Julie Patterson-Hunter

From: Alison Lehman
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 8:59 AM
To: Julie Patterson-Hunter
Subject: FW: Support for staff plan, CRF

One more letter – no need to read but to include in the count.

From: Julie Baker [mailto:julie@juliebakerprojects.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 8:52 AM
To: Alison Lehman <Alison.Lehman@co.nevada.ca.us>
Subject: Support for staff plan, CRF

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As a volunteer member of the community advisory council for the Nevada County Relief fund, I have seen the impact of the availability of funds on small businesses and safety net non-profits. We have also seen that the monies raised to date falls short of the need demonstrated by the number of applicants. I support the County Staff plan to allocate \$250,000 in Coronavirus Relief Funds out of the \$10 million from the state to the Nevada County Relief Fund. I also support the allocations to broadband accessibility and \$1.5 million to critical businesses that serve to anchor and position our community for regrowth.

Sincerely,

Julie Baker

julie baker projects
... connecting the dots

Julie Baker, Founder
www.juliebakerprojects.com
530-277-2670


Julie Patterson-Hunter

From: Chris Maher <chris@briarpatch.coop>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 9:39 AM
To: bdofsupervisors
Subject: CARES Act Funding

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello, Board

I am writing to express my appreciation for your work during these turbulent times. As an essential worker serving food to a diverse cross section of our community, my work at BriarPatch Food Co-op has given me a unique vantage on the impact the COVID19 pandemic has had on our community. I hope you are already aware of the broad and deep support we offer to our local businesses and nonprofits. If not, I would invite you to take a closer look at how the success of our for-profit grocery serves as an economic engine in our county.

I am writing today to specifically appreciate the Board of Supervisors consideration of allocating a portion of the CARES Act funding to our arts community. I whole heartedly support this use of funds. Our community support of our artists and the organizations that support them makes our area a compelling and inspiring place to live, work and visit. They have been deeply wounded by the shutdown and ensuing economic fallout. Thank you for ensuring that we reverse this unfortunate impact and keep Nevada County vibrant.

In cooperation,

Chris



Chris Maher

General Manager

(530) 272-5333 x100 | fax (530) 272-5355

chris@briarpatch.coop

290 Sierra College Drive, Grass Valley, California 95945

