

*City of Taunton
Office of the Mayor*



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O’Connell Helps Local Businesses Impacted by Covid-19

Taunton, MA . . . Today Mayor Shaunna O’Connell announced that ten businesses impacted by Covid-19 are receiving grants to help offset their losses and increased expenses for operating during the pandemic.

“Our unemployment rate has now reached over 21 percent. We need to put people back to work. To help businesses survive this shutdown, we established a sustainability fund and today we are starting to issue the grants to our local businesses. I am glad to announce that we are now handing out grants across Taunton. This money will help revive our local economy,” said O’Connell.

The Mayor’s office collaborated with Neighborhood Corp, a local non-profit, to privately raise funds to create the Taunton Small Business Sustainability Fund. The funds are to help struggling local businesses and organizations. Bristol County Savings Bank donated \$50,000, the Taunton Development Corporation donated \$25,000 and the Crescent Credit Union contributed \$2,500. “We are grateful for the generosity of these donors. They are truly invested in seeing our community succeed,” said O’Connell.

Donations to the fund can be made through the City of Taunton website under the “Small Business Grants” box. Grants will be awarded on a rolling basis subject to availability of funds.

Businesses receiving the assistance from O’Connell include:
Open Door Yoga Studio, Acadia Seafood & Bar, Taunton Eagles Soccer Club, Platinum City Gaming, Tux Towne, Energy No Limit, Silver City Dance Center, Upside Down Escape Games, Girls Inc., and Our Daily Bread.

“Mayor O’Connell has been focused on helping the business community throughout the shutdown. She has taken action and shown true leadership in getting us through these challenging times,” said business owner Jose Bejarano of Tux Towne.

“I am so glad so many people came together to support our local businesses that create the majority of new jobs. They are the lifeblood of our local community,” said O’Connell. “Together, we can rebuild our robust economy.”

The Mayor is also urging people to shop locally.

“Now more than ever before, we should shop at our local stores. They were hit hard by the pandemic,” urged O’Connell, who has been a longtime supporter of small business.

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