



Stronger Counties. Stronger Ohio.

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Cheryl Subler, Executive Director

August 18, 2020

TO: ALL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, COUNTY EXECUTIVES, COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS,
COUNTY ADMINISTRATORS AND COUNTY CLERKS

FROM: CHERYL SUBLER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
RACHEL MASSOUD, POLICY ANALYST
ADAM SCHWIEBERT, POLICY ANALYST

RE: AUGUST 18, 2020 COVID-19 UPDATES

Key Resources

1. [CCAO CARES Act Funds Resources Webpage](#)
2. [OBM Ideas on How to Use Coronavirus Relief Funding](#)
3. [OBM CARES Act Funds Guidance 7.16.2020](#)
4. [CCAO Guidance on Using CARES Act Funds](#)
5. [Treasury Guidance CARES Act Funds 6.30.2020](#)
6. [Treasury CARES Act Funds FAQs 8.10.2020](#)
7. [CAB: Employees Returning to Work FAQs](#)
8. [CAB: Layoffs and Furloughs Under Civil Service Law 7.15.2020](#)

[CCAO COVID-19 Resources Page](#)

Gov. DeWine's Press Conference

During today's press conference, Gov. DeWine announced that the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) will be issuing an order and guidance regarding sports competition for athletes. Once the order is signed, it will be available [here](#). The order will permit fall sports to occur this season and is focused on high school athletics but will also apply to college athletics. All schools will be permitted to move fall sports to the spring if they wish to do so. Spectators will not be allowed at competitions, except for family members of the athletes or people who are very close to the athletes. Family members or individuals close to half-time performers (marching band, drill team, etc.) will also be permitted as spectators.

There was an increase of 861 total COVID-19 cases statewide from yesterday's data. For more COVID-19 numbers, visit coronavirus.ohio.gov.

A video of the governor's August 18th press conference can be found [here](#). **The next COVID-19 press conference is scheduled for Thursday, August 20th at 2 p.m.** Press conferences can be viewed on www.ohiochannel.org.



Fax: 614-220-0209
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Advocacy Alert: Talking Points for State and Federal Coronavirus Relief Fund Advocacy

Over the past several weeks, CCAO has heard from members who are increasingly concerned about the lack of progress at the state and federal levels on issues related to Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) resources, which were made available from the federal CARES Act. Congress and the White House have failed to reach agreement on ways to make the CARES Act dollars more flexible or to provide additional fiscal relief for states and local governments. At the state level, \$850 million in CRF funds are still remaining to be distributed by the legislature. Under current law, counties and other local governments are facing a year-end deadline to spend these funds.

Talking points for state and federal advocacy on these issues can be found [here](#). **CCAO is asking members to reach out to state legislators and to the Ohio Congressional delegation over the next week.** It is crucial that state and federal leaders continue to hear about county priorities and come back into session to address these issues.

Upcoming CCAO Webinar: How Counties are Using CARES Act Dollars: Examples from Fairfield and Richland – August 21, 1:00 pm

CCAO is pleased to offer a one-hour webinar on Friday, August 21, at 1:00 pm titled “How Counties Are Using Cares Act Dollars: Examples from Fairfield and Richland.” **This presentation will provide a high-level overview of how counties are utilizing federal Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) payments made available by Ohio House Bill 481.** Counties have until October 15, 2020, to obligate all of the funds they have received in order to become eligible for the auditor’s October 22 redistribution of any unspent CRF funds within the county. Speakers from two counties will describe how they have established county spending priorities and will provide an overview of programs and services that are being funded with CRF resources. Examples include public safety and public health personnel costs, economic development, social services, and technology and equipment, PPE, and other uses. Speakers will also describe how they are tracking CRF spending and documenting their decision-making for audit purposes.

Speakers: Richland County Commissioners Marilyn John, Darrell Banks, Tony Vero; Carri Brown, Fairfield County Administrator

Click [here](#) to register for this timely educational opportunity. If you are unable to register to the link above, please email [Nedra Benson](mailto:nbenson@ccao.org), nbenson@ccao.org, CCAO administrative professional, and provide her with your email address.

White House Briefing Call Registration – August 19, 1:00 pm

The White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs will host a **COVID-19 National Briefing Call for State, Local, and Tribal Officials** on Wednesday, August 19, at 1:00 PM Eastern Time. Though subject to change, we will be joined by Dr. Deborah Birx (White House Coronavirus Task Force), Secretary Alex Azar (HHS), Administrator Seema Verma (CMS), and Secretary Steven Mnuchin (Treasury). Registration instructions are below.

Briefing Call Registration

Date: Wednesday, August 19

Time: 1:00 PM Eastern Time (please note start time and time zone)

Call-In Registration: [CLICK HERE](#) (if you have already registered, please disregard)

Note: Call-in lines are limited. RSVP's will be allocated in the order they are received. Please register only if you are able to join the call.

NACo Webinar: How Counties are Investing CARES Act Dollars in Social Safety Net Services – August 19, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Join [NACo for a webinar](#) to hear from county leaders about how their CRF plans are working towards supporting individuals most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The webinar will take place Wednesday, August 19, from 2:00 – 3:00 pm. To register, for this webinar click [here](#).

Each year, counties invest \$58 billion in federal, state and local dollars on human services while serving as the frontline social safety net. With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, counties are investing in critical public assistance services and programs to better support our residents and communities impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. With the authorization of the Coronavirus Relief Fund under the CARES Act, many counties are using these dollars towards child care support, nutrition assistance and services to older Americans.

Request for counties to share CARES Act spending plans with CCAO policy team

With CARES Act funds being distributed to local governments across the state, counties have a number of options for how they may utilize their funds. As your county decides how to spend its CARES Act funds, please share your ideas with the CCAO policy team. Your ideas can serve as valuable examples to other counties considering different funding options. Please send any resolutions or spending plans to Jon Honeck at jhoneck@ccao.org.

Other Resources

[ODJFS Director Hall Weekly Call Notes 8.18.2020](#)

[Public Health Advisory System Map and Resources](#)

[Ohio COVID-19 Travel Advisory Information](#)

[Current Information Regarding Reopening](#)

[Editable #InThisTogetherOhio Logo](#)

[NACo COVID-19 webpage](#)

Visit <https://ccao.org/resources/coronavirus-updates/> for updates, FAQs and previous memos. Current information from the Ohio Department of Health can be found at www.coronavirus.ohio.gov. If you want to help Ohio's response to this pandemic, you can contact the state at together@governor.ohio.gov. If you have questions regarding this memo or best practice suggestions relating to COVID-19, please contact Rachel Massoud, policy analyst, at rmassoud@ccao.org.