



*Stronger Counties. Stronger Ohio.*

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Cheryl Subler, Executive Director

**August 25, 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 25, 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 talked with two local health commissioners about how the virus has evolved in their communities.

The administration released guidance on [performing arts](#) as well as [sports venue](#) late last week. As a reminder, all guidance can be found on [coronavirus.ohio.gov](http://coronavirus.ohio.gov).

There was an increase of 844 total COVID-19 cases statewide from yesterday's data. For more COVID-19 numbers, visit [coronavirus.ohio.gov](http://coronavirus.ohio.gov).

A video of the governor's August 25<sup>th</sup> press conference can be found [here](#). **The next COVID-19 press conference is scheduled for Thursday, August 27<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m.** Press conferences can be viewed on [www.ohiochannel.org](http://www.ohiochannel.org).

### **State Controlling Board Distributes \$175 Million in CARES Act Funds to Local Governments**

The State Controlling Board this afternoon approved the disbursement of \$175 million of federal CARES Act funds to Ohio counties, municipalities and townships. The funds will be distributed in the same fashion as the



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\$350 million distributed by House Bill 481 earlier this year. Local government jurisdictions will not need to pass an additional resolution (assuming an initial resolution has already been passed) to receive these funds. Counties and other local jurisdictions can expect to receive half of what they received from HB 481 as part of this distribution.

Statutory limitations prevent the distribution of more than \$180 million via the Controlling Board during this state fiscal year for a single purpose. Thus, legislation will be required to distribute the remaining CARES Act funds – which total approximately \$680 million.

At this time, we anticipate Senator Matt Dolan will introduce a bill in September to allocate the remaining CARES Act funds on a per-capita basis. We also anticipate a broader conversation surrounding the existing October 15 redistribution date and December 28 unused fund return date, especially if Congress and the White House agree to a timeframe extension for usage of CARES Act funds.

We thank you for your advocacy efforts thus far. Today marks a good step forward and we deeply appreciate the leadership from Governor DeWine and Ohio House and Senate leaders in making today's distribution possible. Our advocacy efforts are not yet done, however. In addition to the pending state legislation to distribute the remaining CARES Act funds, please continue to urge federal lawmakers to provide additional flexibility for CARES Act funds, an extended timeline for their usage, and additional support where needed.

If you have any questions regarding today's developments or steps going forward, please feel free to contact CCAO Senior Policy Analyst [Jon Honeck](#) or Policy Analyst [Adam Schwiebert](#).

### **Ohio Public Defender Memo**

Ohio Public Defender Tim Young sent a memo regarding COVID-19 and indigent defense reimbursement to county officials today. To read the memo, click [here](#).

### **Save the Date: CCAO Membership Call with Gov. DeWine and Lt. Gov. Husted – September 9 at noon**

CCAO will host a membership call with Gov. DeWine and Lt. Gov. Husted on Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at noon. The conference call information is as follows:

**Dial: 1-877-273-4202**

**Room ID: 889-229-624#**

Participants will remain muted throughout the duration of the call. We ask that participants pose questions during the call by texting Rachel Massoud at 513-543-3723. Rachel will read the questions to Gov. DeWine and Lt. Gov. Husted and state the name and title of the person who posed the question.

### **Recording and Slides from CCAO Webinar: How Counties are Using CARES Act Dollars**

The recording and slides from CCAO's webinar titled "How Counties are Using CARES Act Dollars: Examples from Fairfield and Richland" are now available at [ccaohq.org](http://ccaohq.org) and at the links below:

[Recording](#)

[Richland County Presentation](#)

[Fairfield County Presentation](#)

Thank you to Richland County Commissioners Marilyn John, Darrell Banks, Tony Vero and Fairfield County Administration Carri Brown for presenting.

## **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](mailto:jhoneck@ccao.org).

### **Other Resources**

[ODJFS Director Hall Weekly Call Notes 8.24.2020](#)

[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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:rmassoud@ccao.org).