

# PRESS RELEASE

## COVID-19 INFORMATION



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **Menifee CARES: Disaster Recovery Initiative**

*An on-line resource for residents and businesses to begin the recovery in the wake of novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)*

**MENIFEE, CA-** The City of Menifee announces *Menifee CARES, Disaster Recovery Resource*, an online resource focusing on the Menifee community's economic recovery in the wake of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. The City, which will continue to follow directions set by Federal, State, and County public health agencies, is looking ahead to the revitalization of the local economy as soon as possible. This online resource is a centralized clearinghouse of information, developed in coordination with the Menifee Valley Chamber of Commerce, to equip Menifee businesses and residents with needed resources and information to help mitigate the COVID-19 economic fallout and recovery efforts.



Menifee Mayor Bill Zimmerman asks for local businesses and residents to please consult the “Menifee CARES Disaster Resource” webpage when searching for information related to their economic recovery. “As a resident, husband and father, I know first-hand the difficulties we are going through to slow the spread of COVID-19. The impact to our local economy is real and very serious, but Menifee is strong and resilient. Together we can rebuild and recover as quickly and as safely as possible to ensure that the recession caused by the pandemic is temporary for our residents and businesses.”

The online resource, Menifee CARES, can be found at [cityofmenifee.us/CARES](http://cityofmenifee.us/CARES), provides a comprehensive and informative list of resources, toolkits, summaries of available resources, including Federal and State stimulus packages. Information is divided into categories including: Individuals, Workers, Businesses, Education & Students, Senior Citizens, Veterans, Agencies, Protocols, and others. Each item includes who's eligible, significant dates, a short overview, and a direct link to the primary source of information. In order to get information as quickly as possible, residents are encouraged to take advantage of the links provided and directly contact the agency administering a given program. There is also a wide variety of supporting information, ranging from free webinars, links to job opportunities, food, utility agency resources, hotlines, and more.

“While the City has enacted conservative fiscal policies, including future year forecasting and strategic planning twice a year coupled with Measure DD, the City together with our valued residents- will be able to continue to support enhanced police services, fire equipment and services, roadway and maintenance projects and traffic calming measures and projects in the City,” said Mayor Pro Tem Matt Liesemeyer. “By shopping local and promoting Menifee Valley businesses, we will overcome this COVID-19-induced health and financial crisis, and thrive as a community once again.”

To further assist local businesses, the City is providing the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) additional office space within City Hall to provide Monday- Friday consist services. The SBDC will provide expanded one-on-one consulting services for existing businesses who have experienced supply chain disruptions, staffing challenges, a decrease in gross receipts or customers, or a temporary closure as a result of COVID-19. These free business consulting services are available now (virtually) and will continue through this pandemic, and beyond. Business owners can get guidance and advice from industry experts on a multitude of topics including finance, human resource/staffing laws, disaster/contingency planning and more. Response planning will be flexible and change as our business community recovers and additional areas of assistance are identified. Contact the Economic Development Department at [econdev@cityofmenifee.us](mailto:econdev@cityofmenifee.us) or Karla Gonzalez at [kgonzalez@iesmallbusiness.com](mailto:kgonzalez@iesmallbusiness.com) for more information.

Our Federal, State and County governments have widely promoted that lifting the public health restrictions will be phased as public health milestones are met. The City recommends following the State of California closely, and listening to Governor Newsom’s press conferences which are posted daily to the State’s Facebook page, as he provides cues and has mentioned he will outline how businesses may need to prepare to operate once re-opening occurs as we move through the set stages.

These may include adjusting the physical layout to accommodate social distancing, continuing telecommuting when possible, having hand sanitizer available, wearing face coverings, and screening for flu-like symptoms and other guidelines to promote a safe environment so that we can get back to a new everyday “of doing business.”

“We’ve always been a family-friendly and business-friendly community, and that will be what helps us get through this unprecedented time, and we as a City look forward to Menifee’s economic recovery and vitality more than ever,” said Councilmember Dean Dienes. “Menifee CARES about our residents, our families, and for our businesses- and we are committed to continuing to advocate for our community during this crisis.”

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**ABOUT MENIFEE:** *Situated in the heart of southern Riverside County along Interstate 215, Menifee is a vibrant, new city of more than 97,000 residents who enjoy a pleasant year-round climate, abundant recreational offerings, reasonably priced housing and convenient proximity to some of Southern California’s premiere attractions and employment centers. Within its 50 square miles, Menifee’s business, retail and entertainment outlets are starting to shape the community’s character and this growing economic base is also contributing favorably to the city’s strong financial position. Menifee’s growing family-oriented population values the city’s ongoing commitment to public safety, community events and smart growth for the future. All of these elements are working together to support the city’s strategic vision to make Menifee one of the state’s most promising new cities.*

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