With last week’s State of Emergency declaration to combat COVID-19’s spread in Colorado, we are dedicating our outreach to support the health, safety and economic prosperity of small businesses across the State. The State of Emergency declaration is an important step to access key resources to protect Coloradans and our economy. Our commitment is to share the most timely information, processes and resources available. The first phase of the State’s response must be containment and that includes information sharing, preventative actions and resources to help.

What you should know:

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) is leading the State’s multi-agency crisis response. We encourage you and all of your partners to stay informed with reliable, up-to-date information through CDPHE’s website: colorado.gov/cdphe/2019-novel-coronavirus and the Center for Disease Control.

- Coloradans should stay informed and take simple preventive actions.
- Frequently and thoroughly wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash, or use your inner elbow or sleeve.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Stay home if you’re sick, and keep your children home if they are sick.
- Clean surfaces in your home and personal items such as cell phones, using regular household products.
- Be calm and prepared.
- FEMA: Guidance for COVID-19 preparedness
- CDC: Getting your household ready for COVID-19

Additional sources of information:
- COVID-19 Hotline: Call 303-389-1687 or 1-877-462-2911
- Email COHELP@RMPDC.org.
- State public health web page: colorado.gov/cdphe/2019-novel-
coronavirus
- Facebook (facebook.com/CDPHE) and Twitter (@CDPHE)
- CDC web page cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov

Gatherings:

To limit virus transmission, meetings should be conducted via telephone or video conferences whenever possible.

Telecommuting:

Where viable, the role of telecommuting should be discussed as a tool to maintain business continuity.
Earlier today, Governor Polis issued an executive order under the emergency declaration limiting gatherings of people over 250 people. Colorado has taken aggressive actions to identify and isolate cases of transmission and limiting group gatherings flattens the curve of community spread to ensure the resources and facilities to treat new cases.

SBDC Center Operation:

As there continues to be new restrictions and recommendations on travel, conferences, work from home policies, and social distancing in order to minimize the spread of the virus, we at the SBDC will continue to embrace these recommendations as necessary to help keep our clients, staff, and community healthy. As such, some face to face client meetings may be moved to a phone call or video chat and some trainings might move to online webinar formats.

SBDC Resources

The Colorado SBDC Network is committed to providing the most up-to-date relevant information to help you and your business navigate the current potential hardships. To that end, we have compiled the appropriate resources for your business on our Disaster Preparedness and Continuity. If you have questions or concerns, please contact us 719-384-6959 or mickie.lewis-gemici@ojc.edu.

Be Safe and Careful...Best, Mickie Lewis-Gemici, Regional Director/ SECO SBDC