What is the Cook County Community Recovery Initiative? Led by the Bureau of Economic Development, the initiative was created to provide equitable and comprehensive financial relief and critical support services to help suburban Cook County residents and businesses rebound stronger than ever from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

How has COVID-19 impacted our community? Overall, 8 million people have slipped into poverty since May as federal aid has dried up. The pandemic has exacerbated the inequities Black and Brown communities face in terms of disinvestment, access to health care, food insecurity, lack of economic opportunity, language barriers, and other forms of inequity.

Which businesses have been most affected by COVID-19? Small and women-owned businesses have been particularly vulnerable to the financial impacts of the pandemic. Businesses with fewer than 500 employees slashed 16.4% of jobs between February and April vs. 14.1% drop in employment at companies with 500 or more workers.

How has the initiative made progress so far? With $82M in funding from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and public, private, and philanthropic resources of several critical partners, the Bureau is helping Cook County businesses stay open, workers find jobs, residents stay in their homes and meet essential needs. This document is an overview of the community and business support programs and their progress to date:

$82M CARES COVID-19 RELIEF FUND OVERVIEW

**HOUSING**
- Rental assistance
- Mortgage assistance

**SMALL BUSINESS**
- Loans and grants
- Business advising and coaching for all sectors
- Support for manufacturers

**SUPPORTIVE SERVICES**
- Homeless sheltering, legal aid, housing counseling, foreclosure mediation
- Food assistance
- Direct financial assistance

**WORKFORCE**
- Job search and placement services
- Free training available for over 40 occupations
As the need for relief continues to evolve, the County will expand its efforts to provide strategic, coordinated and critical resources for businesses and residents.

Learn more at www.cookcountyil.gov/recovery