

Working Washington Small Business Emergency Grant
Pierce County Business Quotes
June 10, 2020

1. "During this time of uncertainty, I am appreciative to have received support in the form of a grant to my business from the Department of Commerce and the WWSBEG program! This grant has allowed my business and our employees to have more of a sense of security knowing that we have a future that is secure so that we may continue to be apart of our community! Thank you so much!" **Melissa Anderson, Che'mel Salon**

2. "The program has been a huge blessing to our business in a very difficult season! It supports our ability to continue providing jobs for our staff and service to our community." **Teresa Erickson, OD, Milton-Edgewood Eye Clinic**

3. "Deli USA has been serving the Fife community with delicious, fresh food and quality customer service since 2003. We've seen a lot of changes in our neighborhood over the last 17 years, but what remains consistent is our food, care, and community support. We are so thankful to be able to continue opening our doors for you thanks to the generosity of the Economic Development Board of Pierce County. Thank you, and we hope to see you in our restaurant soon!" **Sunny Kim, DELI USA**

4. "We hope included in this release is our gratefulness to the community and all the agencies that have remained on staff for us to be able to stay open and serve the community. We are so happy to be part of this program. It was great luck that we were one of the selection. This is a great honor for us. Thank you to you and your office." **Kwan Lee and Staff, North China Gardens**

5. "The evening you called me was the end of a very long and trying day. I know that every small business owner has faced struggles throughout the past couple of months and my struggles are hardly unique however...when the "Shelter in Place" order came through on March 25th we were knee deep in several projects, one of our customers was living in a hotel while we worked on repairing flood damage to their main floor. The timing could not have been worse for them as they had negotiated a term stay at their hotel through their insurance company and when that order came through everything that had been scheduled was suddenly invalid. We had 2 other projects started in homes that had multiple bathrooms but the bathrooms that we were working on were their "main" bathrooms and as such having them be inoperable was a major inconvenience.

Of course...my employees all had to go on unemployment, 2 of them are custodial parents of young children and 1 of my employee's has a spouse who was recently diagnosed with metastatic cancer and so even when the "OK" to go back and finish jobs that were underway came through they weren't ready to do so.

The day that you called had been steeped in frustration as I tried to juggle schedules of employees that were willing to return to work, the requests from the customers who wanted us to get back to work, trying to line up schedules with our sub's who are all battling their own scheduling issues and staring down the barrel of mounting bills that I had no way to pay if I couldn't find a way to finish the jobs that we had under contract never-mind lining up jobs for future work.

And then you called and said that I was going to receive a grant that would help pay some of my more pressing bills...out of the blue...a grant to help us stay afloat long enough to get some traction going and claw our way out of this. It was quite a shock actually...I don't remember exactly what you said but I remember getting emotional when I discussed it later that night.

So. Thank you. Again. We greatly appreciate it.” **David Spencer, Spencer Construction**

6. “We are a service company. Our philosophy is long term vs short term”.

We feel, at DrCool inc, that the assistance program has certainly taken the same approach as ourselves. Very much appreciated!” **Wayne Kennison, Dr.Cool Inc**

7. “Ordinarily, the second quarter represents our very busiest time of the year with customers needing trophies and awards for a wide variety of activities and events. We purchase extra inventory and supplies in anticipation of the higher sales volume we routinely see in the spring. The WWSBEG allows us to recover a percentage of revenues lost as a result of the cancellation of so many activities.” **Judi Brown, Tacoma Trophy**

8. "The WWSBEG grant came as a welcomed surprise for our business, the Covid-19 pandemic cast a stressful and trying time on our business and so many others. We were able to use the money to support another local Puyallup company, while providing us with a much-needed revamp of our website. We felt it important to keep the money local. The grant money will help our business and another for months to come." **Dr. Aric Turrubiate D.C., Premier Chiropractic of Tacoma**

9. “It’s such a dynamic environment for business right now. Overnight, how we operate had to change. This grant is giving us the ability to add technology to help us with the transition into this new world. We are so thankful for this help. We are planning not just to survive but to thrive.” **Gayle Selden, Ed Selden Carpet One**

10. “Spindle Dynamics provides machine tool spindle repair for printed circuit board manufacturers, so as a niche small business we were both surprised and honored to become a recipient of the Working Washington Small Business Emergency Grant. This Grant is helping us to survive yet another one of the ups and downs our economy has experienced over the past 15 years. Thank you for supporting small businesses throughout Pierce County at such a critical time!” **Trish Long, Spindle Dynamics LLC**

11. "NCS Corporation is a Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business located in Tacoma, WA. NCS provides Building Automation Services to the Puget Sound Region. We specialize in Campus Wide Energy Management Systems. The financial impact of the economic shutdown caused by the Covid-19 Pandemic has been reduced by our selection for a grant under the WWSBEG Program. We greatly appreciate being selected for this program. We see WWSBEG as a bridge to lead us into a brighter future." **Tom Willemin, NCS Corporation**

12. "Thanks to the WWSBEG, Bricks 4 Kidz Tacoma was able to bring our instructors back to provide our community with virtual child enrichment classes, participate in the Tacoma Whole Child Partnership day camp for children of first responders and healthcare professionals, and move forward with much-needed in-person and virtual STEM-based summer camps." **Kristi Walker, Dir. Bricks 4 Kidz**

13. "We are very grateful for this program as a small family business it is tough to compete against the big box stores. They generally get the help they need when Small Mom & Pop stores are the backbone of this country. We appreciate this opportunity as we will be able to use the funds to build up our inventory allowing us to have a chance to recover from this pandemic." **Steve Koch, JSK Treasure Chest**

14. "Thank you for choosing our business for a Working Washington Small Business Emergency Grant. We appreciate the support given to our salon and look forward to continue being a part of the Pierce County business community." **Erica Strup, Salon Riviera**

15. "This grant is making a huge difference for our small business. Not only will it help pay bills, we can support other small independent craftspeople by buying their artwork for our store." **Eileen Hudak, Throwing Mud Gallery**

16. "This is an amazing initiative implemented by Pierce County during these unprecedented times. It's extraordinary how the Economic Development administrative structure supports small businesses with this magnitude. Thank you Pierce County's EDB and all the staff members." **Thanh Ksor, KSOR & LE LLC**

17. "Gig Harbor Eye Care is grateful to be providing exceptional eye care to the Pierce County community, which has come together and stayed strong through the Coronavirus pandemic." **Dave Shin, Gig Harbor Eye Care**

18. "I just want to thank the program for giving us the opportunity to stay open. There is a fine line these days for retailers. Not only do we have to compete with the internet, now we have

this pandemic that could bury us. This grant has given me hope that we will make it! I own a small family business my parents started in 1972. I have a dream to make it beyond 2022!"

Kelly Smith, The Glass Candle

19. "We are deeply appreciative to the Pierce County Economic Development Board. This Working WA Small Business Emergency Grant has been a lifesaver towards keeping our business open during these trying times. As a private practice physical therapy clinic, allowing us to remain open, we have been able to tend to patients' pain needs and keep them healthy, active and out of overtaxed medical facilities. We are grateful and proud to be able to bring wellness to our community during this time of uncertainty, while helping people live their healthiest lives." **Lara Carter, Grant Spangle Physical Therapy**

20. "We would like to take this time to thank the EDB of Tacoma/pierce county for the grant to our aerospace manufacturing business in Bonney lake. We have been greatly impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. This grant has helped us in many ways to pay rent, utilities & other expenses. It's especially relieving to know that Washington state & Pierce county is looking out for their small businesses in these difficult times." **Douglas Taylor, Hunter Manufacturing**

21. "Grizzly Bar and Post Tensioning, Inc., feels honored and blessed to be a recipient of the WWSBEGP. Navigating through these unprecedented times as a fairly new construction company is challenging. We feel that the help received will go far in keeping our employees safe and working and our suppliers paid in a timely manner. We are proud to be a Pierce County Small Business!" **David & Tami Norberg, GRIZZLY BAR AND POST TENSIONING, INC**

22. "We are grateful and honored to have been given a grant to be able to continue to provide dental care for our community of Sumner, WA. We LOVE our wonderful town, and are so humbled to be here to provide care to them! Dr. Ziegele and Team" **Dr. April Ziegele, Joy Management DBA Ziegele Smile Studio**

23. "As a small business operating in Pierce County for over 20 years, I was overwhelmed with gratitude to be chosen for this program. It's nice to know that someone is watching out for the little guys during this unprecedented time of crisis. Thank you for your support." **Brian Stemp, Stemp Chiropractic**

24. “We are very grateful and honored to have been awarded the Working Washington Small Business Emergency Grant. These funds will help Chalet Bowl continue to be a staple in the Tacoma - Pierce County Community.” **Billy Frederick, Chalet Bowl**