

Dear Bluebird District Business and Property Owners,

We want to thank you, for continuing to show the Colfax grit and determination that you always have through a trying year. In our many interactions with business and property owners, the Bluebird Business Improvement District (BBID) board members and staff hear the strain and stress of closures, reduced capacity, reduced demand and new burdens to ensure you, your employees and customers are safe. We thank you for all you do to keep pushing on and making the BBID the unique place it is. Your business is a key part of our community and, no matter the size, is a big part of us makes us great.

This year, BBID shared updated information on resources, door to door distribution of PPE and grant opportunities specific to Bluebird Businesses. If you have benefitted from these efforts, then we are happy to be able to help. If you haven't we would like to better connect with you and support you. Please visit www.bluebirdbeat.com for COVID relief updates and to sign up for our newsletter.

Image: Board President Sean Mandel receiving PPE kits from the City and County of Denver for Bluebird Businesses.



2020 COVID Support by the Numbers

- \$454,927 in grants awarded to district businesses, with more on the way
- \$8,782 in PPE Kits and face mask bundles distributed
- 4 district sponsored Covid19 happy hours while that was possible to do safely
- \$6,552 of direct marketing for district business
- 34 hours participating in councils to align City policy with small business needs
- 5 businesses assisted in expanding outdoor dining

Testimonials from the grant recipients

"I just wanted to tell you how much I really do appreciate this gift! I hate to ...think it was a make or break thing for me I always believed Babooshka would survive most anything, but this year has seriously been catastrophic and I almost felt like I may be losing hope . Thank you for helping me. I feel blessed and important in my community I can't thank you enough of course I cried I am hopeful grateful, humble and so very thankful! I appreciate you." -Cue, Babushka

We received the check for the grant. We cannot thank you enough. we are so grateful. These are such difficult times for our industry and this grant means the world to us. Again, Thank you
-Sincerely, Chris Colbea & staff, Trattoria Stella

We all greatly appreciate your Bluebird District so much, I am still speechless and so appreciate everyone's hard work that allowed this grant to happen. This has been such a difficult time for everyone and this grant means the world to everyone that works here. I truly love our customers and the neighborhood that we are a part of...[A] huge thank you for everyone that's involved in the bluebird district newsletter it has been such a great tool of information. Through this difficult pandemic time you guys have given such great direction.

-Mark, Pleasures on the Park

We've also continued to maintain the district, planting and caring for trees, maintaining our trash receptacles. We are also so thankful for our partners:

- Greg Davis and his daughter Camile Davis, who dreamed up the cool way to honor Colfax through the Bluebird District Haiku Contest with funding from Denver Arts and Venues.

Image First place: Haiku winner, Jem Zarnow, with his wonderful tribute to Colfax.

- Department of Local Affairs, who administered the special district Covid Relief grant program, that funded Bluebird's small business grants.
- The Economic Recovery Committees which have created a direct forum for Bluebird and other BIDs to shape City policy that is more responsive to the needs of small businesses
- Capital Hill United Neighbors (CHUN)
- Colorado Restaurant Association - who we collaborated with to create an expedited process for setting up new outdoor patios in the spring



Looking into 2021 we will have more free PPE kits to distribute to our small businesses and we will continue to diligently look for funds to support our businesses. Please keep in touch so we can continue to share opportunities and information to support you.

Best,

Sean Mandel, President

Bluebird Business Improvement District

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