



**Press Release
For Immediate Release**

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Cook County’s 16th District Businesses Receive Nearly \$2 Million in Back-2-Business Grants

Businesses in seven townships throughout the 16th District receive financial support from Illinois’ Back-2-Business Grants

(Cook County, IL) - Over 50 businesses in townships represented by Cook County Commissioner Frank J. Aguilar received funds from Illinois’ Back-2-Business Grant Program. State officials announced that seven townships in the 16th District received this funding, totalling just under \$2 million dollars. The townships are Bellwood, Broadview, Hillside, Maywood, Melrose Park, Northlake and Stone Park. Amounts each township received ranged from \$45,000 to \$630,000.

“Small businesses are the backbone of our district,” said Cook County Commissioner Frank J. Aguilar. “This pandemic has forced many businesses to make difficult choices. Getting immediate financial relief to businesses throughout the district has been one of my highest priorities. I am thrilled to see so many businesses apply for these funds, and look forward to seeing these community staples not only survive, but thrive.”

The Back-2-Business Grant program assists businesses that have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. This grant money comes from the American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA), and the state has allocated \$250 million to small businesses affected by the pandemic. Businesses were eligible to receive between \$5k - \$250k in relief.

The seven townships, and with the amount each received from the Back-2-Business program in parentheses, are as followed: Bellwood (\$95,000), Broadview (\$500,000), Hillside (\$265,000), Maywood (\$90,000), Melrose Park (\$630,000), Northlake (\$270,000), and Stone Park (\$45,000).

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