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***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

**The Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce and Kittitas County Board of Commissioners  
Release Kittitas County Strong Small Business Grant**

**ELLENSBURG, WA - November 24, 2020** - As of November 19, 2020, the Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce will be opening the Kittitas County Strong Small Business Grant, allowing small businesses to use the awarded funds towards rent or mortgage support, utilities assistance (e.g. gas, power, water, sewer), location cleaning, safety supplies, inventory purchases, physical site reconfigurations and employee assistance (e.g. transportation, gear). This grant is made possible by the Kittitas County Board of Commissioners with the total amount available of \$110,000 and priority given to businesses closed due to the November 15 Governor's Proclamation.

The grant cannot be used for owners or employee wages, anything not associated with reopening or adapting a business that existed prior to March 1, 2020 and/or any expenses that have been or will be reimbursed by other federal funding programs (e.g. Economic Disaster Injury Loans or Payroll Protection Program). Those that are eligible must meet this criteria:

- Locally owned and managed with local decision-making authority.
- Have current Washington Business license at the time of the grant award.
- Been in business for at least one year from the date of application.
- Priority is given to businesses closed due to 11-15-2020 Governor's Proclamation.
- Ability to demonstrate loss of income due to COVID-19.

For more information about the Kittitas County Strong Small Business Grant, please go to [kittitascountychamber.com/loans-and-grants](http://kittitascountychamber.com/loans-and-grants). Completed applications must be sent to [chambercares@gmail.com](mailto:chambercares@gmail.com). The application closes on November 27, 2020 at 5 p.m. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact the Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce CEO Amy McGuffin by emailing [amy@kittitascountychamber.com](mailto:amy@kittitascountychamber.com) or by calling (509) 925-2002.

**About the Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce:** The Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce is the largest business support and development organization in Kittitas County, and one of the largest in Central Washington. With 492 members representing every business sector, the Chamber and its committees oversee county-wide tourism promotion and economic development initiatives and a range of business support tools including publications, web services, seminars and even leadership development for a new generation.

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