METRO BALTIMORE COUNCIL AFL-CIO

COVID-19 PRIORITIES & RESOURCES



PROTECT FRONT-LINE WORKERS

- Streamline approaches for allocating and distributing personal protective equipment to working people in greatest need.
- Issue a workplace safety standard to protect front-line workers and other at-risk workers from infectious diseases.
- Provide workplace controls, protocols, training and personal protective equipment.
- Provide clear, protective **federal guidance for different groups of workers** with different needs.
- Increase funding for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and Mine Safety and Health Administration for additional inspectors and health specialists, and for developing and implementing an infectious disease standard.

SUSTAIN PEOPLE THROUGH THE CRISIS

- Reimagine the unemployment insurance system by dramatically broadening eligibility and increasing both benefit levels and administrative funding.
- In addition to paid sick days, guarantee 12 weeks of paid leave.
- A federal COBRA subsidy of 100% for workers who lose jobs or hours.
- Relief for payment on rent, mortgages and student loans.
- A moratorium on foreclosures, evictions and student loan defaults.
- Increase funding and remove restrictions on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), and the school lunch program.

SUSTAIN STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

- Provide federal funding for the full cost of Medicaid for one year.
- Provide **federal grants to state and local governments** equal to 7% of state and local revenues, totaling more than \$175 billion.
- Pass the Students in Response to Coronavirus Act (H.R. 6275).

COVID-19 PRIORITIES & RESOURCES



MITIGATE THE BROADER PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

- Guarantee 14 days of paid sick leave for all working people.
- Provide federal resources and guidance to increase capacity of the health care system, including hospital beds.
- Use emergency federal authority to expand production of medical supplies and equipment.
- Increase capacity to provide testing for everyone, starting with a priority for front-line workers that includes health care workers, firefighters and paramedics.
- Provide testing, treatment and vaccination (once approved) at no cost.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

- COVID-19 FAQ: https://bit.ly/MD_UI_FAQ
- Unemployment Insurance: Apply https://bit.ly/UI_Apply
- Unemployment Insurance: Claims
 - https://bit.ly/UI_Claims
- Unemployment Insurance: Directory & Locations
 - https://bit.ly/UI_Contacts

FOOD AND UTILITIES

- MD Food Bank: https://bit.ly/MD_Food
- Anne Arundel Resources: https://bit.ly/AACoGuide
- Baltimore City Food Resources:
 - https://bit.ly/BaltFoodSites
- Baltimore Co. Free Food Sites: https://bit.ly/BaltCo_Food
- Baltimore County Resources: https://bit.ly/BaltCoGuide
- Howard County Resources: https://bit.ly/HoCo_Guide
- Service Provider Information:
 - https://bit.ly/MDServiceProviders

UNION RESOURCES

- AFL-CIO Booklet: "When the Paycheck Stops": https://bit.ly/AFLCIOGuide
- Union Plus COVID-19 Updates: https://bit.ly/UnionPlusGuide
- Community Services Food Bank*:
 Please call (410) 247-4898

OLDER ADULTS

- Maryland Department of Aging Guidance for Older Adults: https://bit.ly/MDOlderAdults
- Baltimore Guidance for Older Adults:
 https://bit.ly/BaltOlderAdults

*Available for union members ONLY