



29 April 2020

By now, you have seen that the second round of Paycheck Protection loan money is starting to be divvied out by lenders. Hopefully more of this revenue will reach Utah small businesses this time around. The SBA Website crash that happened the first and second day the new loans were being processed seems to have been corrected and the process is beginning to move forward for many businesses.

Providing timely and valuable information as trusted advisors is a critical mission of Fringe Benefit Analysts during this pandemic. Please [visit our website](#) often as we are scanning hundreds of articles and viewing dozens of webinars each week and are posting the best and most relevant information and removing any redundancies. As it appears that the pandemic will drag on for months to come, the emotional toll is beginning to have an effect on many. We have witnessed amazing acts of charity on one end and sadly, some pretty unpleasant human behaviors on the other end. The main page of our website now includes an Emotional Health section to help us cope with the drawn-out recovery from COVID-19. If you have the financial means or the time, here are some things you might consider doing to help:

FBA—Caring for Our Community

We know many in our community are hurting. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected us all in one way or another, and quite negatively for most. There are some that are literally devastated and it's hard to know if they will be able to get back on their feet. In these situations, a loan or stimulus check might be putting a bandage on a gushing wound.

It is with these individuals in mind that we at Fringe Benefit Analysts are striving to share information about where and how we can give back to our Utah communities.

There is a lightly publicized section of **The CARES Act** which allows taxpayers **who do not** itemize the opportunity to take an above-the-line charitable deduction. Steve Adams, with Adams & Petersen CPAs, provided: *Individuals will be able to claim a \$300 above-the-line deduction for cash contributions made, generally, to public charities in 2020. This rule effectively allows a limited charitable deduction to taxpayers claiming the standard deduction.* This is a very easy way for any Utahn to generously donate to a charity of choice.

Areas critically in need of support:

- Food is in short supply for those in need. Listed below are organizations that specialize in feeding Utah families:

<https://www.utahfoodbank.org/>
<https://www.foodpantries.org/st/utah>

- The restaurant industry has been hit particularly hard, especially those relying on tips having literally no income during this time. The Downtown SLC Alliance has a program to assist them:
<https://downtownslc.org/tip-your-server-donate>
- **UserveUtah** provides personal protective equipment to healthcare workers:
<https://userve.utah.gov/ppe/>
- **Silicon Slopes** has developed a site to collect money for medical supplies and COVID-19 test kits to accelerate testing for all Utahns:
<https://www.slopesserves.com/donate>
- **Weber County** has been hit particularly hard and these sites direct funds to residents:
<http://ogdendowntown.com/supportogdendining/>
<https://ogdenrescuemission.org/>
<https://www.stannescenter.org/item-donation>
- **The United Way of Utah** connects individuals in need with more than 1,000 resources and agencies throughout the state:
<https://uw.org/>
Dial – **211** from any phone to connect with a representative who will assess your needs and direct you to the available and appropriate services in Utah.
- **Fringe Benefit Analysts** has been continuing its 50 Acts of Service in celebration of its fiftieth anniversary. When many of our planned community service opportunities were cancelled at homeless shelters, food banks, soup kitchens and charitable fund-raising events – a stack of \$250 Target gift cards were purchased and distributed to many with immediate dire circumstances.

These are just a few of the organizations who are assisting citizens as we work through this pandemic. Hopefully you find this a helpful resource if looking for a way to get involved.

Best wishes to all our loyal clients and their employees. We will get through this and be stronger when it comes to an end.



Scott Deru
President