GRASSROOTS REPORT

Phase 1 Final Report

Ohio

POTENTIAL DELIVERABLES

- Working with Congressman Gibbs and Congresswoman Kaptur on a join OPED that will circulated across the state. They are waiting on dropping the media release with the introduction of the Bill.
- Ohio Legislative Black Caucus Letter of support.
- Local County Commissioners support letter.
- Expand Hospital outreach for media release once bill is introduced.
- Ohio Business Roundtable and the Ohio Chamber of Commerce.
- Working with Congresswoman Beatty on a social media post once bill is introduced.
- Dontavious Jarrells, Candidate for State Rep and chair of the Young Black Democrats is going to do a social media post.
- Working on a letter with John Singleton, Ohio Nurses Association.

DELIVERABLES:

- Circulated the website and twitter #forgivenessforthefrontlines on McKinley Strategies social media as well as individual team members' accounts (Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn).
- Retweeted and shared multiple links on @defendhospitals twitter.
- Michael Stinziano, Franklin County Auditor and former member of Columbus City Council and former State Representative sent a LTE to the Columbus Dispatch. Tweeted by @defend Hospitals and retweeted by Stinziano.
- The Franklin County delegation in the Ohio Legislature sent a letter to Portman/Brown in support of loan forgiveness. All 9 members of the House and all 3 members of the Senate from the county signed the letter. (Bi-partisan).
- Dave Johnson, Columbiana County GOP chair and member of the Ohio State GOP Central Committee sent a letter to Portman.

- Ohio Hospital Association sent a letter to the entire Ohio Congressional Delegation, including Portman/Brown
- Roy Paparodis, Salem City Councilman submitted an LTE to the Salem News. (printed).

California

POTENTIAL DELIVERABLES:

- OP/ED piece for Hispanic Chamber of San Francisco
- OP/ED piece for LA Metro Hispanic Chamber

DELIVERABLES:

- LA Metro Hispanic Chamber Letters (2) to Representative Pelosi and McCarthy:




- LA Metro Hispanic Chamber Tweets (2) to Pelosi and McCarthy:





- Arab American Grocers Association Letter to Pelosi:



- Arab American Grocers Association Tweet to Pelosi:



- Hispanic Chamber of San Francisco Letter to Pelosi:



- Hispanic Chamber of San Francisco Tweet:



Wyoming

POTENTIAL DELIVERABLES:

- Followed up with Wyoming Medical Center, resent LTE, Op-Ed., or Letter to WY Delegation members. Approval pending.
- Wyoming Nurses Association agreed to send an association letter to WY Delegation and post social media. Copy of letter pending.
- Wyoming Medical Society social media posts.
- Hot Springs County Memorial Hospital agreed to participate, letter pending
- Niobrara Community Hospital agreed to participate, letter pending.
- Torrington Community Hospital, materials sent. Letter pending
- Campbell County Memorial Hospital materials sent. Letter pending
- Wyoming County Commissioners, response pending.
- Cheyenne Regional Medical Center, letter pending.
- Wyoming Behavioral Institute, letter pending.
- Wyoming Primary Care Providers, participation pending.
- Wyoming Legislative Labor, Health and Social Services Co-chair participation.
- Wyoming Association of Municipalities, city council potential participation with local hospital requests.

DELIVERABLES:

- Wyoming Medical Society letter to Congressional Delegation attached.
- Sweetwater Memorial, CEO letter to Congressional Delegation and social media posts. Screen shots attached.
- Wyoming Hospital Association social media posts, screen shots attached.
    - Website: https://www.wyohospitals.com/ Click on America's Health Care Providers

      Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=wyoming%20hospital%20association
- Wyoming Hospital Association joint LTE with SageWest Health Care.
- Wyoming Hospital Association introduction email sent to hospital CEO's.

Louisiana

Potential Deliverables

- Following up with the Rural Hospital Coalition of Louisiana on letters to Louisiana targets
- Following up with the Physician Owned Hospital Association
- Following up with ASCs in Louisiana through the Louisiana Ambulatory Surgery Center Association
- Following up with the Louisiana Orthopaedic Association practice managers
- Following up with the Louisiana Academy of Eye Physicians and Surgeons
- Following up with the rural Louisiana Legislators
- Following up with the Black Caucus
- Following up with the Republican delegation
- Following up with the Democratic Caucus of Louisiana
-

DELIVERABLES:

- Generated a letter from Dr. Donald Falgoust to Congressman Steve Scalise. He is an ophthalmologist who serves on the Board of Directors of the Louisiana Academy of Eye Physicians and Surgeons. He knows Congressman Steve Scalise personally.
- Generated a letter from Dr. Donald Falgoust to Senator Bill Cassidy. He is an ophthalmologist who serves on the Board of Directors of the Louisiana Academy of Eye Physicians and Surgeons.
- Generated a Letter from Sue Funk, RN to Senator Bill Cassidy. She is the administrator of the Christus Cabrini Ambulatory Surgery Center Association
- Generated Letter from Sue Funk, RN to Congressman Steve Scalise. Sue is the administrator of the Christus Cabrini ASC in Alexandria, Louisiana. She serves of the Board of Directors of the Louisiana Ambulatory Surgery Center Association.
- Generated letter from Sandi Hernandez, Administrator for Lafayette Surgicare located in Lafayette to Senator Bill Cassidy. Their physicians perform a variety of procedures including but not limited to biopsies, colonoscopies, cataracts, laparoscopic hysterectomies, tonsillectomies and knee and shoulder arthroscopies.
- Generated a letter from Sandi Hernandez, Administrator for Lafayette Surgicare located in Lafayette to Congressman Steve Scalise. Their physicians perform a variety of procedures including but not limited to biopsies, colonoscopies, cataracts, laparoscopic hysterectomies, tonsillectomies, knee and shoulder arthroscopies.
- Generated letter from Kimi Hart, Administrator of BRASS located in Baton Rouge to Congressman Steve Scalise. The annual caseload of BRASS is 3000/year which includes ENT, Pediatric, Ophthalmology, Orthopedics, General Surgery, Urology, Plastics, and

Pain Management. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, BRASS lost 80% of its typical volume during the seven weeks of limited cases or shutdown.

- Generated letter from Kimi Hart, Administrator of BRASS located in Baton Rouge to Senator Bill Cassidy. The annual caseload of BRASS is 3000/year including ENT, Pediatric, Ophthalmology, Orthopedics, General Surgery, Urology, Plastics, and Pain Management. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, BRASS lost 80% of its typical volume during the seven weeks of limited cases or shutdown.

Maryland

Deliverables:

The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi)
1.) Letter to the MD federal delegation – sent
2.) Op-ed to the Baltimore Sun – posted
3.) Email blast to 18k doctors – sent

Maryland Hospital Association
1.) Letter to the MD federal delegation – sent

Potential Deliverables:

UMMS / Hopkins / Medstar – Letter to the federal delegation plus social media (Working for this week)

Presiding Officers (Speaker / Senate President) – Letter to the federal delegation plus social media (Working for this week)

Governor Larry Hogan – Letter to the federal delegation plus social media

Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission – Letter to the federal delegation

Maryland Chamber of Commerce – Letter to the federal delegation plus social media

Hispanic Chamber of Commerce – Letter to the federal delegation plus social media

Health Facilities Association of Maryland – Letter to the federal delegation

Maryland Nurses Association – Letter to the federal delegation plus social media

1199SEIU Maryland/DC Division – Letter to the federal delegation plus social media

Missouri

POTENTIAL DELIVERABLES:

Governor of Missouri letter to Senator Roy Blunt - has agreed, waiting on a copy

Former City Council Woman and candidate for KCMO Mayor Becky Nace - both calls and letters to delegation - done waiting on report from her and copies

Mayor of Blue Springs, MO and former State Rep, head of Black Caucus Carson Ross, letters to delegation - waiting on these copies

Missouri Hospital Association - opinion piece for papers in Missouri all

Missouri Association of Counties - Association Letter and letter to every county in Missouri endorsing our efforts

Several County Commissioners have indicated they will write letters and or call the delegation to endorse There are 114 counties in Missouri

Bolivar Hospital (the Governor1 s hometown) CEO- op/ed piece

Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Carlos Gomez - agreed to do a letter and an association letter and Op/Ed - waiting on copies

Missouri Medical Society - waiting on board decision to support Ophthalmologists Association - Waiting on decision from board

Black chamber of Commerce - agreed to letter, waiting on copy, asked to do an op/ed too!

Letter and tweet from the primary statewide fundraiser for Senator Blunt, Senator Hawley and Rep. Smith, out of St. Louis, Karen Mohan Day

DELIVERABLES:

Missouri Hospital Association - letter to entire Missouri Delegation

(this is the most powerful association in Missouri influence wise to Senator Blunt and Hawley) They are speaking for all Missouri Hospitals,

Letter from Reprehensive Jason Smith to entire leadership in House. Signed by Reprehensive Smith and Representative David McKinley. Also signed by 32 other members of the House.

Response from Senator Hawley

Letters to Senator Blunt, Senator Hawley and Representative Jason Smith from Chris Molendorp, current collector for Cass County, former head of insurance committee in Missouri House, former head of GOP for Cass County.

Tweet from Chris Molendorp

Former Representative Steve Tilley former Speaker of the House, called Senator Blunt, personal friend Rep. Jason Smith, and Senator Hawley

Letters to all 3 Senators Blunt, Senator Hawley and Representative Smith from Clinton County Commissioner Gary McCrea - He got a response within 3 days, from Senator Hawley

Response from Senator Hawley

Tweet from City Council woman Teresa Loar KCMO

Tweet from Terry Riley, former City Councilman of KCMO, former state Representative and former State School Board member.

Tweet from School Board President of Belton Schools, Ruth Johnson Tweet from Vic Hurlbert - current Treasurer of Clay County

Massachusetts

DELIVERABLES:

- Chris Philbin, Vice President, Government & Community Relations at Partners Health Care shared an email that a Medicare loan forgiveness bill being introduced by Reps. Marcy Kaptur (D-OH) and Bob Gibbs (R-OH). They are urging all the members of Congress to cosponsor the legislation once it is filed.
- Next Step Health Care submitted a letter to Senator Warren and Senator Markey on June 8th 2020. Please see attachment for further detail.
- Spoke to Christina Pacheco, Deputy State Director for Senator Ed Markey. She stated that they have co-sponsored a bill that authorizes the Executive Office of Health and Human Services to forgive a portion of the advanced payments. The Senator is open to a larger forgiveness option.
- Mike Srycinski, Senior Vice President of Government Affairs for Mass Health and Hospital Association, confirmed that this issue is discussed on every weekly conference call that they have with the Federal Delegation and other health care providers.
- The Massachusetts Foot & Ankle Society submitted letters to Senator Warren and Senator Markey on May 29th 2020. Please see attachment for further details.
- The American Massage Therapy Association - Massachusetts Chapter submitted a letter to Senators Warren and Markey on May 29th, 2020. Please see attachment for further details.
- Chris Philbin, Vice President, Government & Community Relations at Partners Health Care stated that this is a top issue for Partners. Partners HealthCare operates two large, nationally recognized acute-care medical centers -- Brigham and Women's Hospital and Massachusetts General Hospital -- and about 15 community hospitals in Boston and surrounding communities. It is one of the most influential hospital groups in the Commonwealth. They shared a letter they have sent to Senators Warren and Markey. Partners spoke directlty with Senator Markey to identify this as their top priority on May 15th. They are still looking to schedule a meeting with Senator Warren.

- Spoke to Melissa Shannon, EVP of Government Affairs for Boston Medical Center (BMC). They are in regular communication with the MA delegation and their priority is COVID reimbursement distribution at this time. However, they will be an “echoing voice” on the Medicare Loan Forgiveness moving forward. She also indicated that they expect the Medicare loan payments will become a bigger concern for BMC in the fall and into 2021 and she welcomes further outreach on the issue.

EXPECTED DELIVERABLES:

- Mass. Acupuncturist Society (ASM) submitting a letter or tweeting out support. Waitng to hear back from Dan Delany, Lobbyist.
- Spoke to Charles Glick, Lobbyist for Massachusetts Association of Physician Assistants. Followed up on the letter to the Congressional delegation and waiting on confirmation of submittal.
- Southcoast Health indicated they would be sending a letter to Warren and Markey supporting the loan forgiveness. The letter may have been sent at this point but awaiting confirmation.
- Massachusetts Coalition of Nurse Practitioners is inclined to send the letter. However, it must be put before the Board for a vote and unclear when that will vote take place.
- Another letter from Massachusetts Health and Hospital Association voicing their support to Senator Warren and Senator Markey

POTENTIAL DELIVERABLES:

- American Physical Therapy Association possibly submitting a letter in the coming weeks.
- Harrington Health Care system possibly sending a letter in the coming weeks.
- Followed up with Ronna Wallace, Lobbyist for Massachusetts College of Emergency Physicians. They are potentially submitting a letter.
- Spoke to to Jeff Terrey, Lobbyist for the Mass Association of Anesthesiologists. He thinks the Mass. Association of Anesthesiologists will potentially submit a letter for send out a tweet.
- Spoke to Melissa Schulyer, VP of Government Affairs for Beth Isreal Lahey Health. Waiting to hear more about their conversations with the Federal Delegation.
- Reached out to Tom Lavalle, Chief Operating Officer at Alliance Health & Human Services. Interested in sending a letter of support
- Reached out to Leo Curtain, Director at Whitier Health Network. Interested in sending a letter of support.
- Reached out to Frank Romano, President of Essex Group Management, Corp. Interested in sending a letter of support.

New York

POTENTIAL DELIVERABLES:

- Rep. Carolyn Maloney confirmed twitter engagement.
- New York City Councilman Fernando Cabrera (D-Bronx) confirmed twitter engagement.
- Greater New York Chamber of Commerce (President & CEO, Mark Jaffe)

    - Letter to Congressional Leadership
    - Letter to the Editor
- Greenwich Village Chelsea Chamber of Commerce (Board Member, Andres Pazmino)
    - Letter to Congressional Leadership
    - Letter to the Editor
- Long Island Association (President & CEO, Kevin Law)
    - Letter to Congressional Leadership
    - Letter to the Editor

DELIVERABLES:

- Rev. Johnnie Green OpEd, Empire Report exclusive: https://empirereportnewyork.com/forgive-the-frontlines/
    - Approximately 150,000 impressions
    - Over 1,600 link clicks
- Empire Report Email to 35,000+ subscribers, screen shots attached.
- Empire Report tweets re: Green OpEd, screen shots attached.
    - https://twitter.com/EMPIREREPORTNY/status/1270690105636855808
    - https://twitter.com/EMPIREREPORTNY/status/1270690175514001409
    - https://twitter.com/EMPIREREPORTNY/status/1270690234322292736
- Liz Mair social media posts, screen shots attached.
    - Thread: https://twitter.com/LizMair/status/1268300567010349056

Kentucky

POTENTIAL DELIVERABLES:

- Kentucky Hospital Association: They've said one member is objecting, they're working on it. Other chambers and associations have told me they were waiting on KHA to act.
- Commerce Lexington: Letter pending approval of their policy committee
- Greater Louisville, Inc.: Letter pending approval of their policy committee
- Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce: Letter pending approval
- Somerset-Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce: Letter pending approval
- Kentucky Association of Counties: Letter pending approval
- Kentucky League of Cities: Letter pending approval

- Kentucky Nurse Practitioners Association: Letter pending approval
- Harlan County Judge Executive Dan Mosley: Letter pending approval
- Knott County Judge Executive Jeff Dobson: Letter pending approval

DELIVERABLES:

- Kentucky Association of County Judges and Magistrates submitted a letter to Senator McConnell

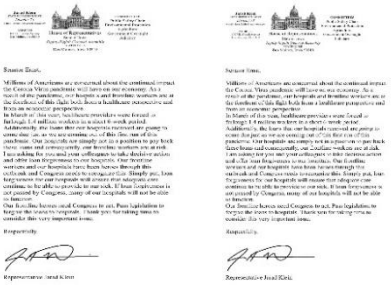
Iowa

Potential Deliverables:

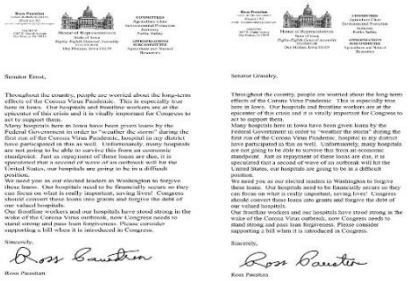
- Mercy has contacted The Greater Des Moines partnership to contribute to this effort.
- Mercy has indicated they sent a letter to Senator Grassley/Ernst but I have not seen it.
- Reached out to five clinics that had shared they are each willing to send a letter to Senator Grassley and Senator Ernst.

DELIVERABLES:

- Rep. Jarad Klein (R) wrote a letter to both Senator Grassley and Ernst.



- Rep. Ross Paustian (R) wrote a letter to both Sen. Grassley and Ernst.



- Senator Koelker (R) wrote a letter to both Senator Grassley and Ernst.



- Iowa Public Radio did an article regarding hospitals struggle with COVID



https://www.iowapublicradio.org/post/industry-leaders-expect-covid-19-take-some-iowa-hospitals-down#stream/0

- Senators Mathis and Sweeney's letter to the editor was posted in multiple news outlets. https://eur05.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fsiouxcityjournal.com%2Fopinion%2Fcolumnists%2Fother-voices---coronavirus-congress-should-forgive-cares-act-medicare-loans%2Farticle_765b8662-9352-599d-9485-b5b8331e72a4.html&data=02%7C01%7C%7Ceb4f3ab0e1c5419f0f2708d80b42de3e%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637271729103911242&sdata=opuOeWPtKlryugVztXHYBbMJipbZs%2F5NCyoz3LvyDoo%3D&reserved=0

  http://www.timescitizen.com/opinion/column-support-hospitals-forgive-loans/article_bfaa3c54-aa8c-11ea-9c3c-cfca23af3d5e.html

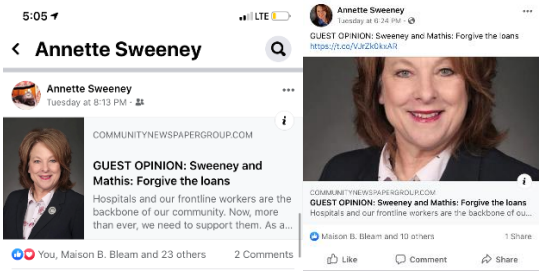
  https://boonecountydem.com/2020/06/mathis-sweeney-forgive-medicare-loans/

  https://www.senate.iowa.gov/democrats/2020/06/mathis-sweeney-forgive-medicare-loans/

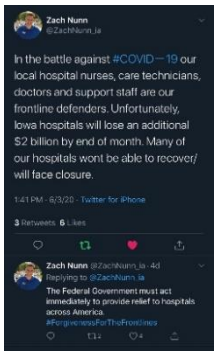
  https://www.stormlake.com/articles/2020/06/05/forgive-medicare-loans

  https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.communitynewspapergroup.com%2Fwaverly_newspapers%2Fguest-opinion-sweeney-and-mathis-forgive-the-loans%2Farticle_84b258e9-73b1-58ab-b66c-ba9835a67986.html&data=02%7C01%7C%7C41c774000f2d465b492b08d813d302f4%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637281144285000278&sdata=gSiuLM3VDwgnFDWmhUhHfh9E%2FvM1Nytw%2BNnHQ%2FEejSM%3D&reserved=0

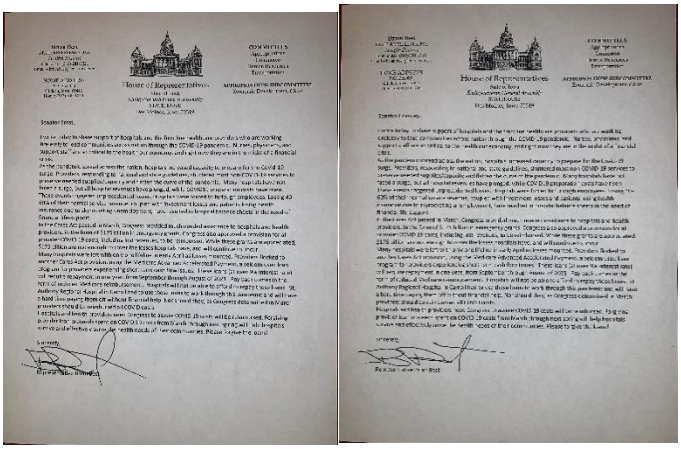
- Senator Annette Sweeney posted on both her personal Facebook page and her Senate page a link to the letter to the Editor.



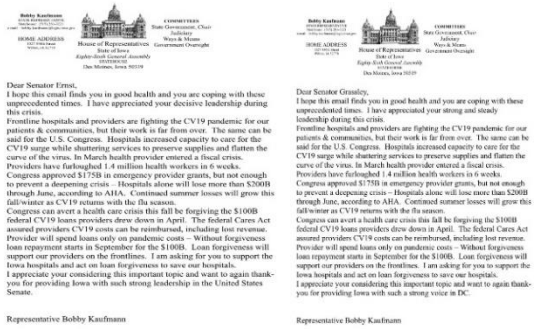
- Senator Zach Nunn (Polk County) posted a tweet to support the hospitals.



- Rep. Brian Best from Gliddon delivered a letter to both Senator Ernst and Grassley.



- Sen. Nunn posted a letter to the editor in the Des Moines Register. https://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/opinion/readers/2020/06/07/letters-americas-hospitals-must-backed/3150428001/
- Rep. Bobby Kaufmann delivered a letter to both Senator Grassley and Senator Ernst.



Bobby Kaufmann
House of Representatives
State of Iowa
COMMITTEES
State Government, Chair
Judiciary
Ways & Means
Government Oversight
HOME ADDRESS

Dear Senator Ernst,
I hope this email finds you in good health and you are coping with these unprecedented times. I have appreciated your decisive leadership during this crisis.
Frontline hospitals and providers are fighting the CV19 pandemic for our patients & communities, but their work is far from over. The same can be said for the U.S. Congress. Hospitals increased capacity to care for the CV19 surge while shuttering services to preserve supplies and flatten the curve of the virus. In March health provider entered a fiscal crisis.
Providers have furloughed 1.4 million health workers in 6 weeks.
Congress approved $175B in emergency provider grants, but not enough to prevent a deepening crisis – Hospitals alone will lose more than $200B through June, according to AHA. Continued summer losses will grow this fall/winter as CV19 returns with the flu season.
Congress can avert a health care crisis this fall be forgiving the $100B federal CV19 loans providers drew down in April. The federal Cares Act assured providers CV19 costs can be reimbursed, including lost revenue. Provider will spend loans only on pandemic costs – Without forgiveness loan repayment starts in September for the $100B. Loan forgiveness will support our providers on the frontlines. I am asking for you to support the Iowa hospitals and act on loan forgiveness to save our hospitals.
I appreciate your considering this important topic and want to again thank-you for providing Iowa with such strong leadership in the United States Senate.

Representative Bobby Kaufmann

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COMMITTEES
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HOME ADDRESS

Dear Senator Grassley,
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I appreciate your considering this important topic and want to again thank-you for providing Iowa with such a strong voice in DC.

Representative Bobby Kaufmann

- Polk County Supervisor Matt McCoy created a quote for twitter.



- Circulated the website and twitter #forgivenessforthefrontlines on McKinley Strategies social media as well as individual team members' accounts (Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn).

South Dakota

IN PROCESS:

- Letter drafted re: Gregory Avera facility. Sen. Blare & Rep. Finck have committed to sign. Avera would rather that letter not come from them. Enlisted Mayor as main sender.
- Letter drafted re: Miller facility. Avera would rather that letter not come from them. Enlisting locals senders.
- Still waiting (and nudging) Monument Health (West River SD system – one of big three) for letter they have committed to Thune and separate letter for legislator sign-on. Had expected those two weeks ago. Pressing as hard as I can. Those letters are critical to open up West River support. Absent a clear sign form Monument, folks not willing to spend the political capitol.
- Assuming Monument letters come out then have leverage to enlist legislators, mayors, local chambers, etc.

DELIVERABLES:

- State rep. Pourier committed on Tuesday to contact Thune's office and to share Bennett County letter on Facebook. I don't have confirmation she contacted Thune. She has not put letter on Facebook.

Illinois

POTENTIAL DELIVERABLES:

- Webinars to get more engagement from the lists of hospitals that received money.
- Continuing to get buy in from communities and local elected officials.
- Following up on getting Chicago City Council's Progressive Caucus to sign a letter requesting Congressional support.
- Congressman Quigley's office has agreed to co-sign a letter to the editor, but wants to do so with a Republican member. Congressman Davis' office did not wish to take part, nor did Congressman LaHood's office after a conversation on 06-05. We are reaching out to other Republicans members of Congress.
- Following up with Policy Director at the Chicago Department of Public Health and CCHS for potential deliverables there.
- Reached out to the Illinois Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, awaiting response.
- Reached out to Jack Lavin at the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce, awaiting response.
- Reached out to SEIU Healthcare, awaiting response.
- Reached out to ILHA and Illinois Medical Society, awaiting response.

DELIVERABLES:

- Received Congressional letters of support from:
  - Cook County Commissioner Bridget Degnen
  - Cook County Commissioner Stanley Moore
  - State Senator Sara Feigenholtz (12th District)
  - State Representative Ann Williams (11th District)
  - State Representative Jaime Andrade (40th District)
  - Chicago Alderman Matt Martin (47th Ward)
  - Esther Corpuz, CEO of Alivio Medical Center

- Received letter to the editor from Dr. Maria Laura Fassari and sent it to several regional papers for publication (Des Plaines Valley News, Palos Reporter, Worth, Orland and Palos Townships), Southwest News Herald).



PROUDLY SERVING

DESPLAINES VALLEY NEWS

A HOUSEHOLD NAME IN THE SOUTHWEST SUBURBS SINCE 1913

THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 2020

SeatGeek Stadium website getting upgrad

9-minutes of silence for George Floyd

Former supt. returning as princip

Community supports dental hygienis whose daughter had heart transplant

Bridgeview police seek hit-and-run vehicle



don't call Anna "Ain't No N—— Allowed" for nothing. Anyone who knows even a tiny bit about southern Illinois and race history knows that Anna is Illinois' most infamous "sundown town." To this day, some residents still wear that moniker as a badge of honor.

According to The Southern Illinoisan newspaper, however, nearly 200 people turned out for the hours-long event.

Let that sink in for a moment. Almost 200 marching and rallying peacefully under a Black Lives Matter banner in Anna, of all places. If you had told me that would happen a few weeks ago, I would've told you to go sleep it off.

Also, according to The Southern, the only people removed from the rally by police were white counter-demonstrators.

You could've knocked me over with a feather when I read that.

Hundreds of people also turned out for a Black Lives Matter march in Taylorville the same day. Taylorville, due east of Springfield, is in Christian County, which is 97 percent white. Its county sheriff opposed legalizing cannabis last year because doing so, he said, would be an invitation to violent Mexican drug cartels to set him bleeding in the street.

Either way, as I've been saying since the protests and the violence started: We don't have to agree on everything, but we absolutely must listen right now to the people who are subjected to racism at the hands of their own governments and then figure out where we want to go.

"As an African American male who has had my own negative experiences with law enforcement, I'm angry," wrote Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul to his employees last week.

"I'm angry because even to this day, at this stage in my career, I get nervous when I walk or drive by a police officer," Raoul wrote. "I'm angry because when I walk into a store, I have to go out of my way to demonstrate that I'm there lawfully, to buy and not to steal."

There was a time in this country when people generally acknowledged that societal problems existed and then they proposed solutions. We didn't always agree about how to get there, but we mostly agreed that a problem had to somehow be solved.

Make no mistake, this is a huge problem.

plan or proposal," said Lightford, who until recently chaired the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus. "It's far too important to not jump the gun and get this one right."

No African American state senators appear to be currently pushing for an immediate special legislative session. Three freshman House Black Caucus members from Chicago (Kam Buckner, Curtis Tarver and Lamont Robinson) came out in support of a special session last Wednesday to address "community police relations, law enforcement accountability and economic development." But none of their colleagues have announced support since then.

Though the governor said he'd go along with a special session if the two Democratic legislative leaders supported it, he also said legislators needed to work out a plan before they return. Neither leader has yet voiced support for a special session; and as I write this, there is no plan.

Rich Miller publishes Capitol Fax, a daily political newsletter, and CapitolFax.com.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Congress must forgive loans to hospitals

Hospitals and our frontline workers are the backbone of our community. Now, more than ever, we need to support them. As a result of the COVID-19 outbreak, our hospital systems have been strained to a degree that are going to put many of them at risk of closing. In March of 2020, our health providers entered a fiscal crisis that forced the furlough of over 1.4 million workers in just a six-week period.

As a result, Congress approved some solutions that will provide temporary relief in the form of grants. However, the relief they provided was not nearly enough. According to the American Hospital Association, hospitals across the country will lose more than $200 billion by the end of June. This is just the tip of the iceberg as these numbers will continue to grow as flu season and the possibility of a COVID-19 resurgence comes again this fall.

Here in Illinois, our hospitals have supported our communities in so many ways. From large urban centers to suburban communities to our rural counties, our hospitals are the key to a thriving community. We need Congress to stand up and support our hospitals by forgiving the COVID-19 loans that have been issued. The cost of this pandemic has hit many sectors of the economy and our health care system is no exception. We need Congress to act and act fast to protect our hospitals and our frontline workers. Forgive the loans.

– Maria Laura Fassari, M.D.

- Requested letters of support (outstanding) from:
  - John Conrad, President of iBIO will be sending a letter to his congressional delegation. iBIO-Illinois Biotechnology Industry Organization (iBio.org)- can be listed as a supporter of the initiative on all our stuff.
  - Cook County Commissioner Suffredin

- Ameya and I are hosting a 30 minute webinar for Illinois hospital executives to discuss the legislation and nationwide advocacy effort taking place and the advocacy taking place in Illinois and what they can do to help. The series will be to draw in all hospitals that received advanced payments and the series will evolve with the legislative process.

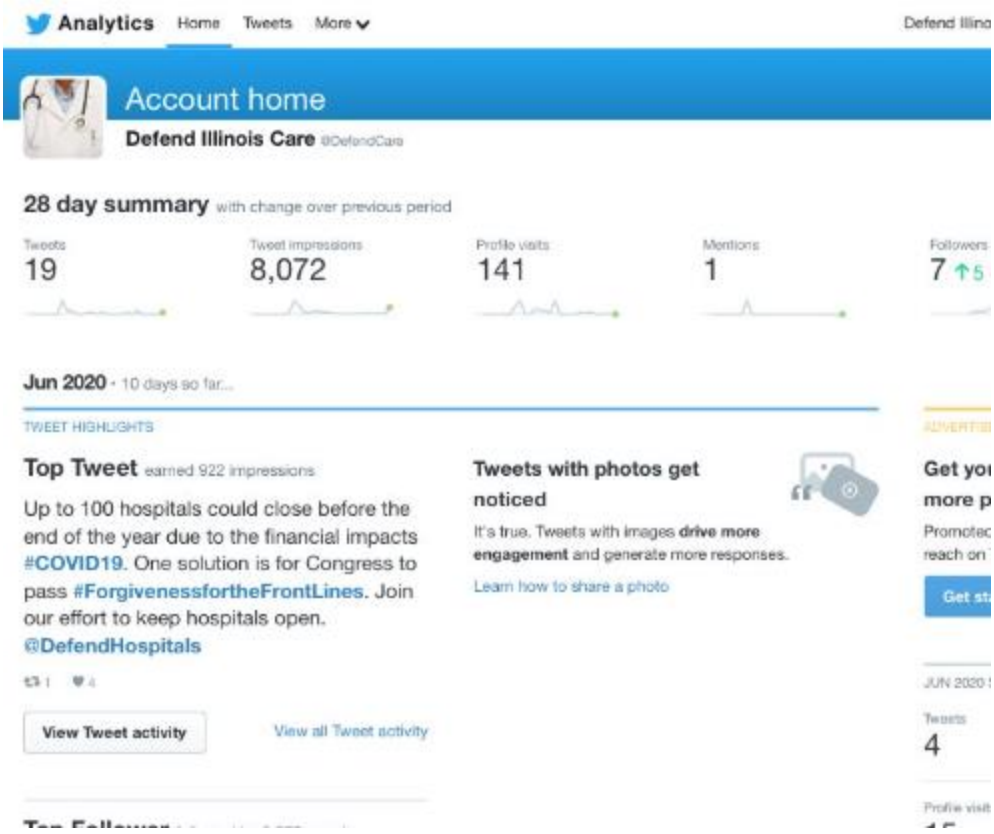
- We've engaged Loyola Hospital which has a good relationship Congressman Quigley's office, to entertain other ways to be helpful. Have had several conversations with Jennifer Koehler in Loyola's Government Relations office.

- Circulated petition link and information among local community activists.

- Had calls with Congressional staffers, reached out to mayors, elected officials, state reps.

- Over 8000 impressions on @DefendCare Twitter with tweets to members of the IL Congressional delegation, Senators Durbin and Duckworth, Governor Pritzker, and Mayor Lightfoot.

- Weiss Memorial Hospital (Pipeline Health) has a Twitter handle @FundILHospitals and they are amplifying our social message


Analytics
Home
Tweets
More
Defend Illino
Account home
Defend Illinois Care @DefendCare
28 day summary with change over previous period
Tweets
19
Tweet impressions
8,072
Profile visits
141
Mentions
1
Followers
7 ↑5
Jun 2020 · 10 days so far...
TWEET HIGHLIGHTS
Top Tweet earned 922 impressions
Up to 100 hospitals could close before the end of the year due to the financial impacts #COVID19. One solution is for Congress to pass #ForgivenessfortheFrontLines. Join our effort to keep hospitals open. @DefendHospitals
View Tweet activity
View all Tweet activity
Tweets with photos get noticed
It's true. Tweets with images drive more engagement and generate more responses.
Learn how to share a photo
Get yo
more p
Promotec
reach on
Get st
JUN 2020
Tweets
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