State implements strong measures

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By BOB BARKER

According to the John Hopkins University's Center for Systems Science and Engineering (CSESE), as of March 17, 2020, there have been reported worldwide, 1,743,049 confirmed cases, 84,501 deaths, and 357,672 recoveries. There are 4,148 confirmed cases in the state of New Jersey. In New Jersey, 178 persons have tested positive for COVID-19 and two have died. While Siekerka noted that New Jersey is “one of the states that have been hit hardest” by COVID-19, 19, Middlesex County, 23, Passaic County, 8, Union County, 22, Bergen County, 20, Essex County, 17, Morris County, 6; Morris County, 6; Burlington County, 10, and New Jersey’s COVID-19 death toll now stands at 15.

With all we are seeing going on around us, Siekerka told the assembly that no one will be left behind in our nation and stressed the need for all of us to take our strength, our resilience, our determination, and to slow the spread of coronavirus. “I’ve said many times over the past several days that we need to get through this as a New Jersey family that we all in this as a family,” he said.

The uniform approach to addressing COVID-19, according to Siekerka, will be key to slowing the spread of COVID-19. “COVID-19 is responsible for a massive state of panic which was first recognized in China late last year in December 2019 and has since spread all over the world,” he said.

The governor also said that he has included fever, cough, a shortness of breath and can spread from person to person via respiratory droplets or through physical contact. Siekerka also declared a State of Emergency and Public Health Emergency to ramp up emergency preparedness and contain the spread of COVID-19. Executive Order No. 103 mandates that all public gatherings be canceled or postponed except for essential gatherings, including treatment of the sick, public health, religious services, and family events. Siekerka also directed that all state and local government employees must work from home and that all New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission sites will also be required to be closed and are providing service only by appointment.

Siekerka also stated that a declaration also triggers other governor powers including emergency safeguards, such as prohibiting excessive price increases, protecting price-gouging and Fraud Act and the ability to have a contact tracing methodology. Siekerka also provided a list of gatherings and services for necessary closure as well as orders and response efforts. Siekerka also stated that he has established the New Jersey Health Emergency Task Force Agency, specifically the New Jersey Department of Health and Vital Statistics, the New Jersey Department of Health, the New Jersey Civil Service Commission and the Office of the Public Health Superintendent to address the public health emergency.

In a March 18 press conference, Siekerka said that that he has closed all day care facilities, shopping centers, hospitals, medical providers, grocery stores, and nonessential retail. This order runs through May 12. Siekerka also said that if we want to keep it going, do not go to the store and go to the restaurant. Siekerka also said that this is not a black and white decision. “If you move to a new state and also practice social distancing, you might not have work for laying people off because you might not have work for them. If you break it, you break it. If you break the trust, you break it,” Siekerka said. Said workers unemployed due to the COVID-19 outbreak will receive an additional $200 per week on top of the unemployment benefits they receive, according to Murphy, who said he is putting a moratorium on the tax increase on the unemployment tax.

New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy announced on Monday, March 16, 2020, that the state’s unemployment tax rate will drop from 6% to 5.5% per employer for the next 13 weeks, starting April 1, 2020, and that New Jersey employees at small businesses with five or fewer employees will continue to receive a $200 weekly pay increase for the next 13 weeks.

The Jersey City 10 restaurant group, which includes 10 restaurants, received $35,000 in grant funds from the NJCEED. The grant will be used to cover expenses related to the coronavirus outbreak, including staff salaries, utilities, rent and food supply.

The New Jersey Governor’s Office of Emergency Management has announced a moratorium on the state’s unemployment tax increase and has offered additional support for New Jersey businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Redevelopment Authority of New Jersey Commerce Corporation said that it has been working with the NJCEED to provide funding to small businesses in the state, including the Jersey City 10 restaurant group.

The New Jersey Commerce Corporation has established a new program to help small businesses navigate the coronavirus pandemic. The NJCEED has also announced the addition of new resources to assist small businesses.

The NJCEED has established the New Jersey Business Relief Fund, which will provide grants to small businesses affected by the coronavirus pandemic. The fund has been established with the help of the New Jersey Legislative Chamber and the New Jersey Business Education and Resource Center.

The NJCEED has also established the New Jersey Small Business Relief Fund, which will provide loans to small businesses affected by the coronavirus pandemic. The fund has been established with the help of the New Jersey Legislative Chamber and the New Jersey Business Education and Resource Center.

The NJCEED has also established the New Jersey Small Business Relief Loan Program, which will provide loans to small businesses affected by the coronavirus pandemic. The fund has been established with the help of the New Jersey Legislative Chamber and the New Jersey Business Education and Resource Center.