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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COVID-19 COULD HAVE SLAVERY AND MASS INCARCERATION LIKE EFFECT ON AFRICAN AMERICANS

The fact that socially and economically disadvantaged African Americans are dying of COVID-19 does not shock those that are on the ground. Before data being released by government agencies on the disparities in deaths, SBA Administrator Jovita Carranza was sent a letter on April 06, 2020, requesting she ensure that community small businesses not be discriminated against as it relates to PPP loans. The discrimination of community small businesses would remove any chance of connecting with and educating younger and poor African Americans on the importance of social distancing.

Community Small Businesses located in underserved urban cores and rural communities can connect directly with the people. Some Community Small Businesses such as Barber Shops, Hair Salons, Smaller Non-Profits, Mom and Pop Restaurants, are vital in flattening the curb and saving lives. Unfortunately, they must have a different set of guidelines to qualify and receive funding via H.R. 748. The current guidelines demonstrate a disconnect between the current Administration and America's Community Small Businesses. Any non-action by the SBA would be equivalent to handing down a DEATH SENTENCE to someone that hasn't committed a crime.

When a barber goes to cut hair at someone's home to make money, community spread will happen, and death is imminent.

<https://www.wjtv.com/news/brookhaven-man-dies-of-covid-19-family-pleads-for-social-distancing-practice/>

As of 4/09/2020, not one African American Community Small Business had received an EIDL Loan Advance or Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Loan.

In cities like Philadelphia, Baltimore, Atlanta, Jackson, Mississippi, and other cities with a high African American population on the rise, the body count could be unconscionable. The current

Administration must not allow America's historical lack of value for African Americans to prevail in this unprecedented crisis caused by COVID-19.

We are requesting the following:

1. Funds to launch a national marketing campaign targeting young African Americans and socially and economically disadvantaged communities as part of the solution to saving lives.
2. A meeting with SBA Administrator Jovita Carranza
3. A meeting with The White House and Secretary Steve Mnuchin as it relates to the next phase of funding and direct funding for Community Small Businesses
4. The White House, each U.S. Senate, and U.S. House Representatives of Congress insist that the EIDL Loan Advance of \$10,000.00 not be based on the number of employees. This action would discriminate against Community Small Businesses.
5. Breakdown of each entity that has received funds, the date they applied, what lender closed their loan, and the amount funded

The negative impact of Slavery and Mass Incarceration that many often overlook is the broken family structure caused by the removal of a critical family member. COVID-19 is killing African American patriarchs, matriarchs, and the working class.

Many Americans see this 2.2 Trillion Dollar package thus far as a failure as it relates to the everyday American, by totally disregarding the needs of economically and socially disadvantaged Community Small Businesses. While the Sense of The Senate in H.R. 748 states the importance of these businesses, yet the equitable disbursement of funds demonstrates the opposite.

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For More Information on CSB Coalition visit: <https://www.csbcoalition.com/>

CSB Coalition is a national agency led by business professionals, 501C(3)'s and 501C(4) founders. The agency focuses on the survival and growth of minority-owned and rural Community Small Businesses (CSB). CSB's are historically underserved in America due to a lack of representation and geographical location. The coalition classifies a Community Small Business as a business with 1 to 10 employees, annual revenues under \$800,000.00, and generally serves its customers weekly.

The alliance focuses on ensuring that underserved areas and rural markets, including small business concerns, owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals (as defined in section 8 (d)(3)(C), women, and businesses in operation for less than two years are provided funding and support by the SBA.