According to the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Ohio has paid $40 million to 95,000 unemployment claims, as of today, April 1st. Last week, ODJFS said it received 187,780 jobless claims the week ending with March 21.

**Highlights**

- *Yesterday the President announced a Major Presidential Disaster Declaration and it provides grants from FEMA to state and local governments. 75% of the costs for dealing with COVID-19 related measures like: emergency operation center costs, state agency purchases in resonese to COVID, disinfection of public facilities, PPE, and temporary medical facilities and enhanced hospital capacity*

- *Governor announced the creation of the Ohio Manufacturing Alliance to Fight COVID-19 “public and private partnership to have our manufacturers step up” Ohio Manufacturer’s Association, Ohio Hospital Association, Ohio Manufacturing Extension Partnership, Manufacturing Advocacy and Growth Network, nursing home organizations, Ohio Developmental Services Agency, Ohio Department of Administrative Services, Magnet Ohio, JobsOhio, and the Ohio Dept. of Health. Governor made a plea to manufacturers to help in making the PPE. If you think you can help, go to: RepurposingProject.com”*

- *Governor signed an Executive Order to help small businesses—the Order seeks to provide assistance for small businesses with mortgage and rent payments. The Order asks lenders and landlords across Ohio to work with their small businesses and suspend payments for at least 90 days in an effort to avoid foreclosures.*

- *Ohio Dept. of Agriculture, grocery stores, and the USDA are working on a “click and collect” option at grocery stores so people can pay and pick up groceries curbside*

- *Governor announced a new Order by Dr. Acton that will force hospitals that don’t do their own testing (currently using a private third party) to now be required to send to another hospital who can do it quicker. OSU, Metro Health in Cleveland, Cleveland Clinic, and University Hospitals has an unused capacity and can turn-around much more quickly than the private labs. “Waiting 5-6 days is unacceptable.”*

- *2,547 confirmed cases and 65 deaths in Ohio to date*

**Governor Mike DeWine**

- *Yesterday the President announced a Major Presidential Disaster Declaration and it provides grants from FEMA to state and local governments. 75% of the costs for dealing with COVID-19 related measures like: emergency operation center costs, state agency purchases in resonese to COVID, disinfection of public facilities, PPE, and temporary medical facilities and enhanced hospital capacity*

- *Governor told a personal story about a family in Greene county who was able to adopt the little boy and share with family through zoom*

- *Governor spoke to the 8 hospital regions and said there are three zones within those 8 regions—1. Dayton and Cincinnati, 2. Columbus, Southeast and Eastern, 2. Toledo, Cleveland, Akron, Mahoning Valley, and some parts of Eastern Ohio*

- *Governor announced the creation of the Ohio Manufacturing Alliance to Fight COVID-19 “public and private partnership to have our manufacturers step up” Ohio Manufacturer’s Association, Ohio Hospital Association, Ohio Manufacturing Extension Partnership, Manufacturing Advocacy and Growth Network, nursing home organizations, Ohio
Developmental Services Agency, Ohio Department of Administrative Services, Magnet Ohio, JobsOhio, and the Ohio Dept. of Health. Governor made a plea to manufacturers to help in making the PPE. If you think you can help, go to: RepurposingProject.com

- “The money will be there. We need your help”—items we need are: swabs, ventilators, goggles, gowns, etc.
- Update on testing: Ohio, like other states, has not had the testing we like. “We have had to ration”
- Governor announced a new Order: Dr. Acton is going to issue an Order to our hospitals that don’t do their own testing and send them to a third party—they will now be required to send to another hospital who can do it quicker. “OSU, Metro Health in Cleveland, Cleveland Clinic, and University Hospitals has an unused capacity and can turn around much more quickly than the private labs. Waiting 5-6 days is unacceptable.”
- ODH will continue to analyze tests as well, including critical patients.
- Ohio Dept. of Agriculture, grocery stores, and the USDA are working on a “click and collect” option at grocery stores
- The idea for the “click and collect” is so that you can order your groceries and pay and pick up curbside
- Happy Census Day—today is the day that we recognize this work. What will the census do for us? It is in everyone’s interest. Where ever you live. Whatever your political persuasion. It will determine how the roughly $675 billion in federal funds are distributed among states and how many Congressional members represent us. You can call: 844-330-2020, by mail, or go to 2020census.gov to respond.
- Governor signed an Executive Order to help small businesses—the Order seeks to provide assistance for small businesses with mortgage and rent payments. The Order asks lenders and landlords across Ohio to work with their small businesses and suspend payments for at least 90 days in an effort to avoid foreclosures.
- Talked about how the Ohio National Guard is playing a significant role in expanding capacity at hospitals and possibilities include: college dorms, convention center, and closed hospitals. The National Guard will be working in the three regions to assess the structures that are needed for the anticipating the surge
- When reporter asked DeWine on Hobby Lobby staying open he said, “everyone has to follow the law” (later the AG Yost issued a cease and desist letter)

**Lt. Governor Jon Husted**

- LG addressed the new EO on foreclosures and evictions for businesses and talked about the connection between the businesses that can’t pay—the person who owns the building—and then the lender. The “90-day pause” or “90-day deferral”. We can put the money owed, including interest, on the back end of the note.
- Reporter asked how this would be enforced and the LG said that the he thought the courts would uphold the EO as far as he sees it.
- Reporter asked about those who don’t make enough to qualify for unemployment benefits “the CARE Act did cover 1099 employees, but as for those who make less than $265/week and less than 20 weeks (those who don’t qualify for state unemployment)—we cannot cover them in Ohio, but if the resources are available at the federal government then we will support that"
• LG spoke to the Manufacturing Alliance “we appreciate you all being a part of the solution”
• Seven things that our essential retailers asked us to lift up: keep at least six feet of space, shop patiently, limit and consolidate shopping trips, shop alone, if you are not well—don’t go to the store, wash and sanitize your hands before (and after) your trip, wear a mask or gloves, and shop online for home delivery or pick up
• The retail stores also asked the LG to give a plug that they are hiring

Dr. Amy Acton

Ohio Specific Numbers
• 2,547 confirmed cases (>1-99 years of age, with median age 53)
• 1,294 (51%) female, and 1,246 (49%) male
• 679 hospitalized (27% of cases are hospitalized)
• 222 admissions to ICU
• 72 out of 88 counties reporting confirmed cases
• 65 deaths

Other information by Dr. Acton
• Dr. Acton sites how Danny Rubin, who wrote “Groundhogs Day” used the five stages of grief to write the screenplay and that we can relate: denial, anger, bargaining, depression, and acceptance
• Dr. Acton made a point for all of us to be kind during this difficult time
• Dr. Acton signed an Order on what the Governor discussed in his comments about streamlining the test results to hospitals and not third parties who take too long to get results