



## **News from Livingston County, NY**

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### **Livingston County to Congress: We Need COVID-19 Relief Now**

**Geneseo, NY, December 8, 2020** — Livingston County – as one of 3,069 counties represented by the National Association of Counties (NACo) – joins its peers in urging Congress to pass immediate legislation ensuring that counties of all sizes have access to direct, flexible funding to fight the COVID-19 pandemic.

“As COVID-19 cases surge, counties across the nation continue to fight the pandemic by providing essential services, especially for our most vulnerable residents,” stated Livingston County Administrator Ian M. Coyle. “We have been on the front lines of the response since the very beginning.”

In March 2020, the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act was signed into law. It established a Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) that provided direct payments to state and local governments navigating the detrimental fiscal impacts of the COVID-19 crisis. Eligibility was based on population size, and as such, only those units of government with a population over 500,000 received CRF payments.

Coyle said, “Unfortunately, only 5% of counties nationwide were eligible to receive CRF payments. Livingston County – with a population of 65,000 – was ineligible.”

“Looking ahead, counties – both big and small – will play a critical role as plans for COVID-19 vaccination deployment take shape. This is in addition to providing essential county services such as public health, long-term care, emergency operations, court and jail management, public safety and emergency response, and human services for children, seniors, and veterans,” continued Coyle. “We strongly encourage our Congressional leaders to pass a relief package

that includes direct and flexible funding for counties of all sizes. These critical funds will allow us to maintain vital services for our residents while, at the same time, fighting on the front lines of this crisis in order to preserve the health and safety of our community.”

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