

JOBS LOST IN WISCONSIN HOTEL INDUSTRY DUE TO CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

- **18,168** direct hotel-related jobs lost
- **48,345** total jobs lost supporting hotel industry

WISCONSIN HOTELIERS SHARING THEIR HARDSHIP

Josh Patel – Plover, WI

"I have experienced firsthand something that I have never witnessed in the past 30 years that I have been in this industry. This pandemic has caused group and individual reservations to cancel for the next 60+ days leaving us in single digit occupancy. We can not afford to keep out hotel open!"

Clint Wills – Muskego, WI

"We have seen the occupancies in our hotel group fall drastically to levels we have never seen. Because of this we have had to layoff countless employees due to the mandates on gathering sizes and just the fact that nobody is traveling. For those salaried employees we have had to impose a 20% pay cut. We have had to do this because we are at risk of not meeting our very basic financial obligations to our lenders."

Charlie Eggen – Verona, WI

*"As a life-long hotelier in Wisconsin I have experienced firsthand how devastating this outbreak and the economic downturn has been on our hotel and lodging industry employees. Our dependence on overnight travel puts our industry on the front lines of this downturn. Our properties have already been forced to layoff 90% of all employees as cancellations and groups have cancelled all overnight travel for months. As an employer I want to do everything in my power to ensure that we have a workplace for these vital parts of our business to return after the recovery comes around. Our hotel properties **NEED YOUR HELP** with financial packages and assistance in every form to help withstand the burden. **PLEASE help.**"*

Lee Fischi – Verona, WI

"We are doing everything possible to respond to the needs of our employees and avoid any addition immediate layoffs. Our company needs financial assistance to sustain operations through the COVID-19 pandemic. We are in dire straights financially and all indications are it will get worse before it gets better...HELP!"

Hailey Crowe – Green Bay, WI

"I have personally had groups cancel their meetings and sleeping rooms which affects me financially as I am a group sales manager."

HEADLINES ACROSS WISCONSIN ON IMPACT TO HOTEL INDUSTRY

100 news stories in Wisconsin regarding impact to hotel industry on broadcast, print and online news outlets including:

Chippewa Falls Online – [A Cruel Paradox: Beating Virus Means Causing US Recession](#)

"Travel industry executives visited the White House on Tuesday with a dire warning on the fallout from the coronavirus pandemic: half of all hotels in the United States could close by year's end and put 4 million Americans out of work without a massive bailout from Washington."

Green Bay Press Gazette – [COVID-19 Job Cuts: Layoffs Accelerate As Coronavirus Disrupts American Economy](#)

The American Hotel & Lodging Association and the U.S. Travel Association estimated that 1 million hotel jobs, or about 45% of the industry's employment, "have either been eliminated or will be eliminated in the next few weeks." Taken together, the actions illustrate how the coronavirus outbreak threatens to derail the nation's employment market, which was in excellent shape with a national unemployment rate of 3.5% in February, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.