## **NSBC launches The COVID-19 Small Business Relief Centre**

Your partner during the coronavirus crisis

(Johannesburg, South Africa - 19 March 2019)

The COVID-19 Small Business Relief Centre has been launched by the National Small Business Chamber to assist small businesses during this crisis. With the collaboration of experts in various business fields, this center hopes to help small businesses weather the current coronavirus storm successfully.

The objective of The COVID-19 Small Business Relief Centre, a NSBC initiative, is to help small businesses by taking their pain away during this crisis. Some of the key areas the center will focus on include: low-interest disaster recovery loans, moratoriums on vehicle and equipment leases, bond repayments, supplier negotiation and communication, landlord negotiation with regards to property leases, increased cleaning, disinfecting and hygiene protocols, digital marketing strategies in a time of crisis, quick digital migration for meetings, business continuity plan creation, etc.

To all the experts out there, please join us in helping small businesses survive and prosper. Your contribution, suggestions, tips and advice to add value to The COVID-19 Small Business Relief Centre to help small businesses get through this crisis, especially those in dire need of financial relief and general business survival, will be well received. We need to come together to ease the pain for every small business out there.

For every small business now is the time to look critically at your business and create a business continuity plan. If there's one thing small business owners and entrepreneurs share it is being resilient and resourceful in times of adversity. Negotiate and stay in contact with suppliers, think about how you can adjust your offering, and look at how you could weather the financial implications ahead. We are all aware of the saying 'two minds are better than one' so involve your team in a powerful brainstorming and strategy session today and put a plan in place.

"Small Business is the mainstay of our economy and the future of job creation. We need fast action to make the thousands of small businesses throughout South Africa more resilient to coronavirus-related economic disruptions. Small businesses are vital economic engines. More than two-thirds of the working force work in a small business today. This is why we need to make sure we bridge businesses through these tough times. Our goal is to make sure businesses stay in business and that we keep workers employed. Although this is a time to be careful, it's not a time to panic and stop shopping locally, it's the time to stand together" – Mike Anderson: National Small Business Chamber (NSBC) Founder & CEO

For more information about The COVID-19 Small Business Relief Centre, please <u>click</u> <u>here</u> or go to <u>https://www.nsbc.africa/COVID-19</u> or alternatively e-mail: <u>covid19@nsbc.africa</u>