

## Wineries Pull Out All the Stops for COVID-19 Relief

From boutique operations to major conglomerates, wine and spirits producers are raising big bucks for coronavirus victims, often in creative ways—with help from some famous friends

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Wine remains an essential pleasure for many during the coronavirus pandemic, and for the most part, wineries and wine shops have been deemed essential businesses. Still, the wine industry, especially smaller producers, has <u>felt the economic strain</u>—but wineries are more than eager to step up and help out victims hit far harder. From independent businesses donating proceeds to multinational producers partnering with major nonprofits and celebrity boosters, the drinks industry is going into overdrive to support the needy, the vulnerable, first responders, and their own out-of-work <u>comrades</u> in the <u>severely crippled</u> <u>restaurant industry</u>.

## Small wineries, big hearts

Though most tasting rooms are closed, and many small wineries are hurting for income themselves, the most common method of philanthropy for them is donating proceeds from wine sales. In California, Bonanno Vintners, Matthew Fritz, Cuvaison, Honig, Bricoleur, Inman Family, Macrostie, Ram's Gate, Grounded Wine Co. and Donum are sending money to health efforts, food banks and unemployment relief funds. In Washington and Oregon, Alexandria Nicole, Betz Family, Stoller Family and Chehalem are among the altruists.