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## What is a Business After Hours?

A Chamber Business After Hours (BAH) is a business/social gathering of Chamber members and their guests at your business or chosen location. As a sponsor, the BAH provides you with the opportunity to showcase the products and services of your business, and offers area business people a chance to get to gather informally, re-connect with old friends, make new connections, and find out what our area businesses have to offer.

The BAH generally takes place at the end of the business day, from 5:30 – 7:30 pm, usually held on a Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday evening – a date best suited for the hosting business. All Sponsoring parties must be current members of the Gr. Hudson Chamber of Commerce. Businesses may also co-sponsor a BAH.

## **Expectations of Host:**

- Provide the location—showcase your business!
- Hors D'oeuvres & beverages (can be alcoholic and/or non-alcoholic its up to you)
- Offer Door prizes (related to the sponsoring business)
- Promotional information, displays, or tours of the business.
- Guest speakers can also be a part of the program.
- If you would like your event to stand out, consider a Theme to create a festive and appealing event.
- Provide the Chamber a paragraph about your business
- A table or desk, preferably near the entrance, for registration of our members and guests. We will also use this surface
  to set up any raffles and to display member literature and upcoming events.
- You may do your own publicity and invites as well, don't forget to include customers, vendors as well as others to your
  event. Please be sure to indicate that it is a Gr. Hudson Chamber of Commerce event.

## What the Chamber Provides:

- Publicity for the event. The Chamber will provide the sponsor with a listing of all current chamber members for additional
  or personalized mail invites.
- The Chamber will announce the Business After Hours at prior events, and promote the event in email blasts, as well as
  have flyers available at other Chamber events. The GHCC will include your logo in information distributed giving you
  optimal advertising and awareness of your business.
- The Chamber will list the event on the Chamber Facebook page and other social media outlets and include the event on the Chamber website events calendar.
- The Chamber will manage event registration and keep the host informed of anticipated attendee count.
- Name tags for attendees, and basket for door prize tickets/business cards.
- Staff support and guidance. The Chamber staff will work with you to ensure that all necessary steps are taken for you to host a fun and successful Business After Hours!

## What happens at the event:

- A Chamber staff member or representative will assist with welcoming guests.
- Participants will be asked to wear nametags which the Chamber will provide.
- Attendees will place their business card into a basket for the door prize drawing. You will be allowed to keep the business
  cards for your reference following the BAH.
- Networking—Making connections and enjoying the refreshments.
- During the evening, the hosting business, Chamber Board Members and Special Guests will be introduced.
- After introductions the host will have the opportunity to say a few words about their business. If desired a tour.
- A Chamber representative will make brief announcements regarding any upcoming Chamber events.

Contact the Chamber office today to begin planning your event!