Business as Usual

58,037
number of Chamber member employees.

Grew the Chamber’s business network by welcoming the Fisher Area Business Association as an affiliate member.

82,560
Business connections made at Chamber networking events from July 2019 to March 2020.

60+
students participated in the healthcare careers program.

180+
students received 1-on-1 mentoring via iRead • iCount program.

90+
students had 1-on-1 resume reviews with local HR professionals.

PUBLIC POLICY & ADVOCACY

• In partnership with Congressman Rodney Davis, hosted both Amtrak and Canadian National to discuss improving on-time performance. 18 different organizations and 10 different communities were represented.

• Champaign County First efforts resulted in the completion of the Village of Royal waste water & sewer treatment system which will facilitate business growth in the community.

41
Entrepreneurs received counseling during FY20 to start and grow their businesses in Champaign County.

Resulting in the opening of 6 new minority/female owned businesses.

42
Leaders in Champaign County received education and skill development through Chamber leadership programs in FY20.

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Business as Unusual

Throughout the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic we have:

Organized & facilitated a virtual townhall meeting with Nearly 100 Attendees & 5 of our State elected officials providing access to decision makers as the Stay-at-Home went into effect.

Used creativity to continue to connect our members through networking events, both virtually and in-person (following public health safety guidelines). This allowed our members to create important business connections.

Led communication to the business community on COVID-19 to 4,000+ contacts through our Daily Updates. These emails include timely news articles, daily statistics & links to important resources allowing businesses to be up-to-date on information concerning the pandemic.

• Provided businesses with almost weekly webinars on funding, legal issues regarding COVID-19, marketing in a newclimate and leading remotely.

• Intervened and facilitated on behalf of our members who had challenges with stimulus programs to help them secure their funding.

• Advocated across all levels of government for our members’ needs as it relates to restrictions, funding & the economic impact of the pandemic.

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY SAFE

• Partnered with community organizations & entities to launch champaigncountysafe.org — a comprehensive website with information & tools related to the pandemic.

• Convened industry-specific groups to help build re-opening plans and developed a comprehensive guide to re-opening.

Too Many To Count

The Chamber has fielded hundreds of calls from business owners and leaders seeking help on navigating COVID-19 in the workplace; understanding mitigation ramifications; seeking funding assistance; helping identifying PPE and other resources.

"The Champaign County Chamber of Commerce has been an invaluable resource for our small business in 2020. Operating a business under “normal” circumstances has its challenges, but operating during a pandemic, that’s a whole new ballgame. We’ve relied heavily on the communication from the Chamber to help us stay abreast of the ever-changing environment that affects how we do business day-to-day. The value-added services we’ve received this year have far exceeded our expectations and we are very happy to be members of the Chamber."

- Becca Powers, Owner of Industrial Donut