

MEMBER BENEFITS

The Rochester Area Chamber of Commerce, representing over 1,000 members, is the leading business organization in the Rochester Area.

MISSION

To lead, inform, advocate, and advance business interests for members; and to promote a healthy community and a growing economy.

Networking & Marketing Opportunities

ANNUAL MEMBER CELEBRATION: Over 600 members attend this event.

AM ESPRESSO: A.M. Espresso is a convenient way to network at a member's place of business while enjoying coffee and a continental breakfast. This is an informal event. You will have the opportunity to introduce yourself and your business to over 50 Chamber members. Each event will feature a "Network Expert Presentation" and prizes. Bringing many of your business cards is advisable.

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS: The most popular business networking event in Rochester. Held each month on a Tuesday or Thursday from 5:00–7:00 p.m. at a Chamber member's place of business, average attendance is 120 people. See the Upcoming Events calendars for dates and locations.

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS EXTRA! Don't miss this business-to-business networking event held twice a year. 75 exhibitors display their products and services during this well-attended event.

GOLF OUTING: Join your fellow Chamber Members at the 24th Annual Rochester Area Chamber of Commerce Golf Outing. There will be morning and afternoon shotgun starts. The format will be a five-person best shot (scramble). Special events include the Inside-the-Circle contests on each of the par 3 holes and the Hole-In-One contest. There will be many opportunities to win door prizes and, back by popular demand, chances to win prizes on the Chance Boards.

MEMBER TO MEMBER PROMOTIONS: Free monthly advertising opportunity to promote your products and services to other Chamber members.

NEW MEMBER RECEPTIONS: An opportunity to meet other Chamber members and the Chamber staff. An introduction on how to maximize your investment by becoming involved with the various committees and events the Chamber has to offer. See the Upcoming Events calendars for dates and times.

POWER LUNCH: Another great networking opportunity and a fast-paced luncheon. You will progress through a three course meal while networking with new tablemates.

Publicity & Promotion

CHAMBER ADVANTAGE NEWSLETTER: Published monthly, the *Advantage* is the Chamber's major information source for the membership. Members are able to submit newsworthy items about their business to the Business News section. Newsletter sponsorship exists and includes a six by seven inch ad for your business on the back page, as well as, space on the front page for your logo.

CHAMBERPAK: Mailed to 3,800 business-community members in the Rochester area. ChamberPak provides members with a low-cost, direct-mail program. Use ChamberPak to: 1) distribute your company brochure; 2) extend a discount or coupon offer to members; 3) inform members of a new service; 4) introduce new sales staff or customer representatives; or, 5) advertise a special promotion or event. Mailed five times throughout the year, see the Upcoming Events calendars for deadline information.

EVENT SPONSORSHIP: The Chamber hosts many monthly and annual business/social events intended to increase member contacts and encourage community involvement. Your sponsorship of these events is an excellent way to increase your organization's visibility and promote your business. Sponsorship opportunities are available for the following: Annual

Meeting, Business After Hours, Business After Hours EXTRA!, Chamber *Advantage* Newsletter, Diversity Awareness Series, Eggs & Issues, Golf Outing, Leadership Greater Rochester, Legislative Reception, Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast, and New Member Receptions.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY: Published annually and updated quarterly, the Directory is a complete listing of the Chamber membership – alphabetic and by business category. It includes contact information for local, state and national government officials. In addition, the front section provides a profile on the Rochester community. This comprehensive profile is also printed as a stand-alone piece. This piece is a key resource for employee recruitment and new residents. 2,500 directories are delivered annually.

RELOCATION LIST: Contact potential clients by purchasing the Chamber's Relocation List. The list consists of people who have requested relocation packets during the previous month.

RIBBON CUTTING & GROUND BREAKING CEREMONIES: Contact the Chamber for assistance in celebrating the opening of your new business or location. Community and business leaders will be on hand for your event to welcome you to Rochester.

WEBSITE: Each Chamber member is listed in the Chamber's online membership directory. Members are able to "hotlink" their website from the Chamber site for a nominal annual fee. This gives browsers who are looking for goods and services direct access to your website.

Educational Opportunities

BUSINESS SOLUTIONS SEMINARS: Educational seminars on some of the hottest topics affecting your business. These seminars encourage professional growth and instill the tools necessary for recruiting and retaining employees in today's tight market.

EDUCATORS IN THE WORKPLACE INSTITUTE: This program provides an opportunity for businesses to play a major role in the development of a community partnership between business and education. The Institute is a three-day workshop of classes, panel discussions and interactive work-site visits designed to give educators a better understanding of the business environment and the community.

LEADERSHIP GREATER ROCHESTER: A comprehensive nine-month program designed to educate participants about the Rochester community and provide an opportunity to discuss the challenges and issues that face the Rochester area. Its goal is to identify emerging leaders, expand their knowledge of the community and encourage them to take active, individual responsibility for participation in and leadership of the future of Rochester. The program includes a two-day retreat in September and eight full-day class sessions.

TOASTMASTERS: Whether you're a professional, student, stay-at-home parent, or retiree, Toastmasters is the best way to improve your communication skills. Toastmasters can help you lose the fear of public speaking and learn skills that will make you a better listener and more successful in whatever path you've chosen.

Other Member Services

AFFINITY PROGRAM: TDS Affinity Program offers Chamber members TDS/USLink's lowest five year rates for just a one year commitment.

MEETING ROOM SPACE: Conference rooms of various sizes are available Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. for strategic planning, interviewing, training, and other needs.

Member mailing labels, disk, or list by e-mail.
Business referrals
Certificate of Origin

*For further information about Chamber Member Programs and Services,
Contact the Chamber at 288-1122 or email chamber@rochestermnchamber.com or visit us at
www.rochestermnchamber.com*