Representation

Public Policy:
The Chamber operates as a non-profit entity known as 501(c)(6) corporation. Unlike charities, a 501(c)(6) non-profit has the authority under state and federal tax rules to represent our members in public policy. The President / CEO is a state-registered lobbyist and can take positions on legislation at the direction of the board. The chamber focuses on issues rather than candidates to effectively represent the entire membership.

Issues:
Members are kept informed on issues impacting their business. Key areas include: workforce education and training, occupational health and safety, business taxation and regulation and more recently, public health and small business recovery. Dialogue with legislators and forums for meeting the candidates are regularly scheduled.

Strength in Numbers:
Join with 650 other businesses to address and work together on issues that affect the business community.

Diverse and Inclusive:
The Chamber is an organization with a diverse membership, committed to standing against racial injustice. Programs are being developed to ensure our businesses and organizations continue to include diversity, equity and inclusion practices at the center of their daily work.

During Covid-19

We communicated with state legislators and members of Congress to convey that the economy is not the antithesis of public health. We continue to work with public health officials, medical professionals, businesses and employers to come up with ways for to coexist safely and prosperously together.

With virus containment a priority, we partnered with Dr. Ayne Amjad on her hashtag campaign #Wear A Mask to keep our community safe as businesses reopn. We recommended that business leaders endorse face coverings coupled with frequent handwashing and social distancing to help prevent the spread of coronavirus.

We are giving employers another medium to show how they are safeguarding the health of their patrons through a photo collage project.

We are holding regular Tele Town Halls to inform business owners and employers about the federal, state and local resources available to assist small businesses in this time of need. Guest presenters have included the New River Gorge Regional Development Authority, Small Business Administration, US Department of Agriculture, Compliance Human Resources and representatives from the offices of Senator Capito, Senator Manchin, Congresswoman Miller and Secretary of State Warner.

We are partnering with local banks like BB&T to offer virtual shopping experiences for businesses during a time when they have a reduction in customers. The initiative is generating sales for small businesses who have experienced a major loss of income throughout the pandemic.

BECKLEY RALEIGH-COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
245 North Kanawha Street
Beckley, WV 25801
304-252-7328
www.brccc.com

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MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

PROFESSIONAL RESOURCES

Leadership Development:
Leadership Beckley program

Tele Town Halls:
Regular conference calls to inform business owners and employers about timely topics and federal, state and local resources available.

Business Workshops:
Management, human resource and business skills workshops

Health Insurance:
Group Health Insurance is provided for members through the Health Plan.

Certificates of Origin

Exposure and Visibility

Credibility:
Consumers are more likely to do business with a company that is a member of a Chamber.

Membership Directory:
Business referral / lifestyle guide – 3,500 distributed annually

Referrals:
The Chamber only refers members for all incoming requests for goods and services. Local businesses refer member to member first.

Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies:
Members who are starting, expanding or relocating a business use this service to get the word out.

Marketing:
Targeted, effective and affordable marketing and advertising opportunities for businesses to showcase themselves.

Communication:
Chamber news and member information emailed weekly and posted on social media daily.

Shop Local Business Initiatives:
We are partnering with local businesses to promote shopping locally.

Community Development

- Opportunities to be involved in our community's culture, beautification, family life and healthy living making Raleigh County a better place to live, work and play.
- Raleigh County Make It Shine
- Piney Creek Watershed Association
- Appalachian Festival & Maker's Market

Information Resource

- Up-to-date economic and community data kept on hand.
- Relocation packages for prospective residents, new businesses and their workforce.
- Retirement and tourist information.