



## staying strong:

a message from the Frederick  
County Chamber of Commerce

# *We're here to help* **Your Business**

We're in a different time, certainly something none of us ever anticipated. This robust engine of economic opportunity that we have celebrated for the last several years in Frederick County has been hit hard by the global COVID-19 pandemic. Recently we've begun a shelter-in-place order that I hope won't last too terribly long, but I recognize that every day it does last has a catastrophic impact on you, our small business owners, nonprofits and partners in this incredible economy that we've all benefited from.

Last year the Chamber pivoted away from being the face-to-face, business-to-business networking specialists of this region. Although that is something that we love doing, we recognized that we have a larger role to play in this community serving as a trusted provider of important information and a valued influencer on public opinion on behalf of the 900 member organizations that make up our chamber.

So we've had to cancel those great networking events. In fact, in the month of April, we will close all of our live/in person programs, events, and other learning opportunities.

In their place, we're working really hard, as hard as we ever had, to share with you as much information as we can. From both financial opportunities to try to save your business investment and protect your payroll, as well as changes to unemployment programs and employee leave programs.

Our decision to pivot away from just member transactions and in-person networking to recognizing the power of our influence and advocacy is being validated in this difficult and frustrating environment.

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***If you need help, if you just  
can't find an answer to your  
questions, WE can!***

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Email me at [rweldon@frederickchamber.org](mailto:rweldon@frederickchamber.org), and our team will do our best to get you what you need. Also, if making your annual, quarterly or semi-annual dues investment, or taking out an initial membership in the Frederick County Chamber of Commerce places you in a difficult financial position, email me or Dawn Marcoux ([dmarcoux@frederickchamber.org](mailto:dmarcoux@frederickchamber.org)), and we'll work it out. We want everyone to make it, however we have to do that.

Ladies and gentlemen, we have never needed one another more than we need each other right now, right this very minute. Our entire focus at the Frederick County Chamber of Commerce is protecting what we have so as soon humanly possible, we can restart our local economy.



**Rick Weldon**  
*President & CEO  
Frederick County  
Chamber of Commerce*