

April 7th, 2020



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

North Baldwin Chamber Foundation Announces Small Business Relief Fund for North Baldwin Businesses

Bay Minette, AL – The North Baldwin Chamber Foundation, the nonprofit that supports the North Baldwin Chamber of Commerce, is proud to announce the creation of the Small Business Relief Fund.

Over the years, local business has been there for the community by sponsoring youth sports programs, donating to charities and fundraisers, sponsoring events, and being great community partners for all activities. During this unprecedented time, it is time to return the favor. We need to be there for our North Baldwin Businesses. To emerge from this with our community strong and intact, we need to ensure that what makes us special – our small businesses – not only survive but thrive. To that end, the North Baldwin Chamber of Commerce board and staff are taking an ‘all hands on deck’ approach to keep our businesses informed about all of the resources available to them. In addition to keeping our community and businesses informed, the North Baldwin Chamber Foundation has established the Small Business Relief Fund.

“I am extremely proud of our North Baldwin Chamber team and the impact they continue making in our community during this crisis. This relief fund is just one way that the North Baldwin Chamber is assisting with relief efforts,” said Chamber Board Chairman Tripp Ward, “This will not be an easy journey for any of us, but we want all businesses in our footprint to know we are here for them during this time.”

As North Baldwin County unites to support its small business community, the Small Business Relief Fund has been established to quickly administer much needed funding during these challenging times. Whether you are a business, foundation, or individual, we must rally together to provide relief for the small business community in North Baldwin. Our local economy thrives on small businesses and the need for help is urgent.

The Small Business Relief Fund is a North Baldwin Chamber Foundation fund offered in cooperation with the North Baldwin Chamber of Commerce. The fund was created to assist small businesses that have experienced a financial hardship as a result of Coronavirus (COVID-19). The North Baldwin Chamber Foundation made an initial designation of \$10,000 to seed the fund, along with an additional contributions of \$10,000 from the Industrial Development Board and \$12,500 from the City of Bay Minette, the Chamber has been able to launch the project.

“The Chamber Foundation is proud to be a part of the Small Business Relief Fund. Small business are the lifeblood of our community and this pandemic has paralyzed many, if not most, of them.

This fund will help local businesses that have served us for years weather this storm,” said Chris Yokley, Chairman for the Chamber Foundation Board of Directors.

“We are encouraging our community to Give big, give local and support small today. It’s our turn as a community to give back to small business, to help ensure we have a strong local economy to come back to post-pandemic,” said Ashley Jones Davis, Executive Director for the North Baldwin Chamber of Commerce.

Small Businesses must meet the following criteria to be eligible for applications:

- Must have experienced a financial hardship as a result of COVID-19
- Must have employed 50 or less Full Time Employees (or Full Time Equivalent) as of February 29th, 2020
- Must be in good standing with state and local government jurisdictions
- Must have a physical location in the North Baldwin Service area to include – Bay Minette, Stapleton, Stockton, Tensaw, Rabun, Perdido, Pine Grove, Whitehouse Fork and Crossroads; Identifying zip codes include – 36507, 36578, 36562, 36579 and 36550.

Qualifying applicants can be awarded up to \$5,000 to help provide some immediate relief to their business. Application for the funding is available at northbaldwinchamber.com/SmallBusinessReliefFund

Donations can be made online at: northbaldwinchamber.com/SmallBusinessReliefFund

Directly to the Chamber Foundation through paypal at: paypal.me/NBChamberFoundation
(add Small Business Relief Fund to comment section)

Checks can be made payable to the North Baldwin Chamber Foundation (Memo: Small Business Relief Fund) and mailed to North Baldwin Chamber, PO Box 310, Bay Minette, AL 36507

The Small Business Relief Fund is a North Baldwin Chamber Foundation fund and all contributions are tax deductible. The North Baldwin Chamber Foundation is a nonprofit 501c3 and is registered as such with the IRS #45-2959533.

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