



# MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

While things are always hopping at the Chesapeake Gateway Chamber of Commerce, spring and fall tend to be especially hectic, with our focus on completing outdoor projects in Essex, grant writing and reporting, strategic planning and budgeting, a number of special events, membership development and retention, production of our Business Directory & Community & Tourism Guide, blood drives and the Christmas Angel project.

While some fall events had to be cancelled or postponed to next year, others are moving forward either online; in-person in small, socially distanced groups; or as a hybrid of online and in-person. Our MEGA networking events with other chambers and business associations were cancelled until next year, and Family Fest @ 43 has been rescheduled for May 15, 2021. We currently are accepting sponsorships and vendors for Family Fest – [www.familyfestat43.com](http://www.familyfestat43.com).

## A PASSION FOR PARTNERSHIPS

At the **A Passion for Partnerships** event on October 21 on Zoom, we heard inspiring messages from County Executive Johnny Olszewski, CCBC President Dr. Sandra Kurtinitis and BCPS Superintendent Dr. Darryl Williams. These presentations were followed by six breakout sessions, and over 50 participants each rotated through three of these sessions. The purpose of A Passion for Partnerships is to highlight and encourage partnerships between businesses and our local schools. A number of excellent partnerships were formed during the program, and we know that others are exploring ways to work together.

The Chamber would like to sincerely thank the sponsors of this event – Silver Sponsor the Community College of Baltimore County, Bronze Sponsor The Romadka Family Partnership, Foundation Sponsor Greenleigh at Crossroads and Media Sponsor The Avenue News. We would also like to thank our many guest presenters and facilitators listed below, as well as other members of the Workforce Development Committee, all of whom put hours and hours into the creation of this wonderful program.

### • Apprenticeships & Internships

Presenters: Mary Manzoni, Senior Manager, Workforce Development, & Kevin Armstrong, Youth Services Manager, Baltimore County Department of Economic & Workforce Development  
Facilitator: Alicia Fales, Supervisor, School to Career Transition, Career and Technical Education, Baltimore County Public Schools

### • Jobs of the Future: Environmental Sustainability

Presenters: Brian Powell, Principal, and Derek Woodward, Teacher, Kenwood High School; Jesie Jumawid and Haylee Hilton, Students, Kenwood High School  
Facilitator: Jason Grahe, Department Chair, Career

and Technical Education (CTE), Kenwood High School

### • Jobs of the Future: Health Careers

Presenters: Jill Johnson, FACHE, Senior Vice President, Operations; Mary Calabrese, MSN, RN, Senior Director, Learning Operations; Deborah Kisner, Chief Nursing Officer; MedStar Franklin Square Medical Center  
Facilitator: Patricia Carroll, Manager, Community Relations, Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center

### • Championing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Presenters: Dominic Smith, Equity & Cultural Proficiency Specialist, Division of Organizational Effectiveness, Baltimore County Public Schools; Michael Bullis, Executive Director, The IMAGE Center, Chairman, Maryland Works; Josh Muhuzuma, Student Member, School Board, Baltimore County Public Schools  
Facilitator: Julie Gaynor, Member, Baltimore County Commission on Disabilities

### • Entrepreneurship

Presenter: Dennis Sullivan, Associate Professor, Community College of Baltimore County  
Facilitators: Emilie Cherry, Director of High School Collaboration, Community College of Baltimore County; Christy Moore, School-to-Career/Work-based Learning Coordinator, Chesapeake High School

### • Rallying Champions in Our Community

Presenter: Deborah Phelps, Executive Director, The Education Foundation, Baltimore County Public Schools  
Facilitator: Susan Hahn, Program Specialist, Department of Communications and Community Outreach, Office of Family and Community Engagement, Baltimore County Public Schools and Jennifer Joyner, Economics Coordinator, Community College of Baltimore County

## CHRISTMAS ANGELS

Next on the agenda for our Workforce Development Committee is the Christmas Angel project. We are in need of additional funding for this project, so we can serve more children. If you would like to donate to this program, please contact the Chamber office.

## NEW BUSINESS NETWORKING EVENT

The Chamber would love to have you join us next month on November 12 from 5:30-7:00 p.m. for a free networking event at a new restaurant in Middle River–Potomac Pizza Grill. While we haven't been able to celebrate the Grand Opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony for this great new restaurant, due to the pandemic, we do want to give them a grand welcome to Middle River. Join us, make some contacts and support Potomac Pizza Grill. They

have plenty of room for our small group to safely distance inside and outside on the patio.

While registration is not required, space is limited, so we ask that you please register to ensure admission at <https://networking-11-12-20.eventbrite.com>. Registration is FREE, and you simply purchase whatever food and beverage you prefer. We encourage you to sample their extensive menu and take advantage of their drink specials - \$2 beer and 1/2 price bottles of wine.

## SALUTE TO HOMETOWN HEROES

In the 13 years since our Salute to Hometown Heroes event began, never before has it been as important as it is this year to honor our local heroes. The Chamber is pleased to announce that, while the format will be different this year due to COVID restrictions, we will again celebrate our Hometown Heroes, who put their lives at risk for us every day. We truly appreciate the men and women who serve our community and are excited about the opportunity to recognize their efforts.

In mid-November, we will honor local fire, police, hospital, and military personnel, as well as citizen nominees who have shown courage in the face of COVID-19 or another disaster or emergency.

As we finalize the exciting details of this celebration, we are writing to ask if you would please consider being a sponsor to help ensure the success of the program. We sincerely hope that you are in a position to help us thank these heroes for their hard work. They deserve our recognition and our profound gratitude. In addition to receiving the satisfaction of knowing that you are supporting a good cause, sponsors also will receive a robust package of benefits for their contributions.

Should you wish to become a sponsor of the event, please contact me at the Chamber office, 443-317-8763, or by email at [sharon.kihn@chesapeakechamber.org](mailto:sharon.kihn@chesapeakechamber.org) no later than November 6, 2020. Thank you for your kind consideration.

## COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVES

Eastpoint Mall, Chesapeake Gateway Chamber of Commerce & Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center will hold Community Blood Drives on November 11 & December 23, from 1:00 – 6:30 p.m. at Eastpoint Mall, Former Sears Building (Enter directly from North Point parking lot entrance)

7839 Eastpoint Mall, Baltimore, MD 21224

Please schedule your lifesaving donation by visiting [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and entering Sponsor Code: eastpointmall

-Sharon Kihn  
Executive Director

THANK YOU FOUNDATION SPONSOR



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