Responding In A Time Of Need

If you make your business about helping others, you’ll always have plenty of work.
- American Author Chris Guillebeau

The theme of this past week has unquestionably been service. We have seen countless businesses across the country step up to help their fellow businesses, and many of those are right here in Shelby County. One of the reasons our team was created is to be a conduit for creating and strengthening these networks of support, so this week we are bringing you stories of support and resources from other businesses each with a local presence (no matter how big they may be). We are hearing your needs loud and clear through the continued responses to our business impact survey linked below. If you have not responded, I urge you to do so. We are putting together content and programming to answer your greatest needs now, so you should be receiving resources catered to your response in the coming days. We are proud to be a part of the Shelby County community, and we are proud to have you be a part of it as well.

Stay Updated By Following Us On Social Media

Shelby County Responding To The Call For Assistance

Alabama Power Technology Application Center (Calera): Printing headbands on two 3D printers and laser cutting the plastic shields for some of the headbands produced to yield facemasks for hospitals. Learn more here.

Pelham-based Research Solutions has shifted production to meet the demand for hand sanitizer. Orders can be placed directly by calling (205) 663-6350. To learn more visit their website here.

At The University of Montevallo a team of employees has begun 3D printing face masks to meet the needs of Shelby Baptist Medical Center in Alabaster. If you would like to support their team by donating 2.85-millimeter PLA filament, 1.75-millimeter PLA filament, or elastic straps, you can contact Michael Price at mprice3@montevallo.edu.
Viper Imaging-based in North Shelby County is producing Viper Elevated Body Temperature (EBT) Detection Systems allowing employers to screen their teams as they enter into their facilities to prevent the spread of infection. Click here to learn more.

Alabama Power: Suspending late payment fees and disconnections of service due to non-payment for those impacted by COVID-19. Learn more here.

AT&T: Providing extensive resources to customers including waiving domestic wireless voice and data overage fees nationwide, Telehealth services, and communications tools. Learn more here.

Bham Now: Offering free local business listings to inform on online and phone based ordering options. Learn more here.

Boulo: Providing guidance on issues like remote technology tools, new rulings on paid vacation, helping design flexible or remote work plan policies, and other resources for the migration to remote/online work based on their experience as a digital talent acquisition platform. Learn more or reach out here.

Google: Providing Google Ads credits to small and medium-sized businesses who have had an active Google Ads account in the past year through the end of 2020. Learn more here.

Spectrum Reach: Providing video messaging resources to businesses through its partnership with Waymark. Learn more here.

Spire: Suspending disconnects and late fees for business and residential customers. Learn more here.

Women’s Fund: Offering grant resources for child care centers through the Rapid Operating and Relief (ROAR) Fund. Learn more here.

Bronze Valley and gener8tor are hosting an emergency, one-week virtual program for all Alabama small businesses, nonprofits, startups, freelancers and artists affected by the COVID-19 outbreak. Click here for Bronze Valley and here for gener8tor.

This week Governor Kay Ivey announced the launch of ALtogether - a new centralized resource page for the state’s people, businesses, and communities. ALtogether is a one-stop-shop where Alabamians can ask for help or lend a hand during the COVID-19 crisis. This response effort is designed to connect businesses,
nonprofits, and people that need help with the right program partners–and to connect program partners with people and resources to help those most in need.

Click Here to Visit ALtogether

COVID 19 Workforce Development Update

In response to these challenging times with COVID-19 disrupting education and training activities at all levels, 58 Inc. is diligently working to identify opportunities for individuals who want to take advantage of programs offered through distance learning to gain new skills and/or seek a different career path. We know that many people are currently out of work due to layoffs, furloughs and closures with an uncertain future. However, there are still systems in place to learn, train and connect to jobs. In an effort to keep our partners informed and citizens encouraged, our team has compiled information on training and employment initiatives across the Birmingham region and will distribute this information to our partners in a separate weekly email.

Click Here for 58 Inc. Workforce Update

Alabama Department of Labor

Important Information Regarding Unemployment Compensation

Alabama Unemployment Filing Information

Many businesses are requesting information on how to file unemployment. Click Here for a one-page document explaining how to file with The Alabama Department of Labor.

Reminder For Business Leaders-
We Need Your Information

As the impact of this crisis continues to unfold, we’re working with our partners at the Birmingham Business Alliance, the Birmingham Regional Economic Development Alliance and Central Six, in partnership with our local and state government partners, to gather vital information on how our business community is being impacted.

All businesses in the seven-county Birmingham region (Jefferson, Shelby, St. Clair, Walker, Chilton, Blount, and Bibb) are encouraged to take five minutes to complete this brief assessment to help us develop and advocate for the most relevant solutions that will keep our region thriving during these uncertain times.
Small Businesses are at the heart of our local economy and now is the time to support them. To that end, we encourage everyone to utilize #ShopShelbyCounty #EatShelbyCounty or #DrinkShelbyCounty to share how you’re supporting our friends and neighbors.