



2025-2026

OPPORTUNITY GUIDE

BUILDING BUSINESS FOR A STRONG COMMUNITY



204 KANUGA RD, HENDERSONVILLE, NC
828-692-1413 | HENDERSONCOUNTYCHAMBER.ORG



BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Business Development is a top priority for the Henderson County Chamber of Commerce. We support businesses of all sizes through various programs, events, and committees. These range from networking meetups to structured seminars, providing opportunities for entrepreneurs to engage, exchange ideas, and explore collaborations. Our diverse committees and groups, such as the Retirement Industry Group, Young Professionals of Henderson County, and the Entrepreneurship Committee, support different business aspects. Through partnerships and knowledge exchange, we foster continuous learning and sustainable economic development, driving a thriving business ecosystem in Henderson County and beyond.

Economic Outlook Breakfast

During the first quarter of each year, the Chamber hosts the Economic Outlook Breakfast. Featuring a keynote speaker who provides insightful analysis and current demographic and economic indicators, this event delivers invaluable information to our business community.

\$1,500 Presenting Sponsorship (limit of 3, non-competing)

\$300 Table of 8

\$40 Individual

Chairman's Reception

This annual event offers executive-level networking with the outgoing Chair of the Chamber Board of Directors. It includes an executive briefing/update on local business trends, entertainment, and ample networking opportunities.

\$1,000 Presenting Sponsor

\$300 Supporting Sponsor (limit 3, non-competing)

National Flags

The Chamber flies national flags honoring international businesses with a presence in Henderson County. These currently include Germany (Elkamet), Japan (Blue Ridge Metals and Kyocera), Great Britain (SELEE Corp.), Finland (UPM-Raflatac), France (Tageos), and Sweden (Ohlins). Sponsor funds are used to maintain and replace flags as needed.

\$150 per year (up to 5)

GROW Mills River

GROW Mills River is a program dedicated to building connections and collaboration among the Mills River's business community. The program features eight morning meetups and four afternoon mixers each year, creating regular opportunities for local professionals to come together, network, hear about updates from the Town of Mills River and neighboring businesses. Each event follows the GROW theme: Gather, Relate, Organize and Work, with 15-40 regular attendees.

\$1,000 Presenting Sponsorship

\$500 Host Sponsorship

Bowling Tournament

This annual event raises funds for the Chamber's small business and general funds. Held each November, it provides a wonderful opportunity for networking, team building and fun. The expected audience is 125 bowlers representing over 20 companies in our community.

\$1,000 Presenting Sponsorship (limit of 4, non-competing)

\$500 Engagement Sponsorship

\$300 Team of 5

Shop Local Programs

The Chamber encourages local citizens to "Shop & Dine Henderson County", supporting local businesses and boosting the economy.

\$5,000 Presenting Sponsorship

\$250 Supporting Sponsorship (limit of 8)

CEO Reception

The Chamber hosts a CEO Reception to offer upper management individuals an exclusive opportunity to network, share ideas, and problem-solve. This is an invitation-only event.

\$1,000 Presenting Sponsorship (limit of 2, non-competing)

\$300 Supporting Sponsorship (cash or equivalent donation of goods or services)

Seminar Series

The Chamber hosts several seminars throughout the year, featuring timely topics presented by local business leaders. An estimated 12 seminars/workshops are held annually.

\$1,000 Presenting Sponsorship (limit of 2, non-competing)

\$100 Engagement Sponsorship (billed for specific months or each month)

New Member Reception

The Chamber welcomes new members to the organization by hosting an annual reception that is designed to help members make the most of their investment in the Chamber. The expected attendees are from new members, Ambassadors and Board of Directors.

\$1,000 Presenting Sponsorship

\$100 Engagement Sponsorship (limit of 4)

Pitch Parties

The Chamber partners with WNC Hatch, BRCC-SBC and Southern Appalachian Brewery to present quarterly Pitch Parties. These are opportunities for entrepreneurs and business owners to pitch 1-minute ideas to a crowd of like-minded individuals who provide feedback and support. These entrepreneurial supportive programs are once a quarter.

\$1,000 Presenting Sponsorship (Limited of 2, non-competing)

\$250 Engagement Sponsors

Small Business Week

Each year, the Chamber's Small Business Committee organizes events coinciding with the National Small Business Week. These include the Business and Professional Women's Luncheon, the Blue Ridge Business Growth Awards, seminars, and other events.

\$2,000 Presenting Sponsorship (limit of 4, non-competing)

Entrepreneur's Breakfast

This Small Business Week related event recognizes the importance of small businesses to our local economy, focusing on both the economic and social contributions. The expected attendance is 80 - 100 individuals which includes representatives, Board of Directors and community leaders.

\$1,200 Presenting Sponsorship (limit of 2, non-competing)

\$500 Supporting Sponsorship (limit of 4, non-competing)

\$300 Table of 8

Blue Ridge Business Growth & Rising Star Awards

These awards recognize Chamber member businesses that have achieved significant success over the past year, contributing to local economic growth through employment or revenue increases. Recipients are honored during the Small Business Week reception with an expected attendance of 100+ representatives from 20-30 businesses.

\$1,500 Presenting Sponsorship (limit of 3, non-competing)

\$500 Supporting Sponsorship

\$200 - 500 Engagement Sponsorship

AM Power Hour

Similar to Business After Hours but held in the morning, this event includes breakfast-like snacks, coffee, and juice. Adequate parking for 40 cars is required. Expected attendance is 30 - 50 members.

\$1,000 Presenting Sponsorship (recognition at all AM Power Hours)

\$400 Host Sponsorship

Business After Hours

Business After Hours is a monthly networking event attracting 80 - 150 attendees. Monthly sponsors are responsible for the sponsorship fee, food and beverages, and other site requirements.

\$5,000 Presenting Sponsorship (recognition at all After Hours)

\$1,000 Host Sponsorship

\$300 Engagement Sponsorship - Raffle

Business Morning Update

The Business Morning Update is a monthly meeting held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the Hendersonville Elks Lodge from 7:45 am until 9:00 am. The event is attended by 60 - 100 business/community leaders and features three short presentations regarding timely issues & updates impacting the business community.

\$2,000 Presenting Sponsorship (Covers all 12 months)

\$200 Host (1 per month)

MEGA Business After Hours

The Chamber's largest event, MEGA Business After Hours, serves as the annual member appreciation event. Held in late July or early August, with an expected attendance of 300+ attendees.

\$2,500 Presenting Sponsorship (limit of 3, non-competing)

\$500 Supporting Sponsorship

Regional Networking

Each year the Chamber hosts Regional Networking events with other Chambers, fostering regional cooperation and providing networking opportunities.

\$1,000 Presenting Sponsorship (2 per event, non-competing)

Joint Leads Breakfast

The Chamber's Leads Groups host an annual joint breakfast meeting, highlighting the benefits of Leads Groups and promoting cross-group networking. Members from all Leads Groups and those interested in joining a Leads Group are invited.

\$500 Presenting Sponsor

Industrial Appreciation Pig Pickin'

The Chamber organizes this annual event to express gratitude to our manufacturing community. This exclusive gathering is for manufacturers, distributors, community VIPs, the Board of Directors, and Sponsors. Expected attendance is 85+.

\$1,000 Presenting Sponsorship (Limit of 6, non competing)

\$600 Supporting Sponsorship (Limit of 4, non-competing)

\$250 Engagement Sponsorship

Professional Women's Luncheon

This Small Business Week related event recognizes the important contributions made by professional businesswomen in our community. Expected attendance is 200+.

\$2,000 Presenting Sponsorship (limit of 2, non-competing)

\$1,000 Supporting Sponsorship (limit of 3, non-competing)

\$750 Engagement Sponsorship

\$600 Table of 8

\$60 Individual

Women's Leadership Breakfast

The Women's Leadership Breakfast event, is offered on a yearly basis to continue the work and mission of the EmpowerHer Committee. Past recipients assist with table discussions and mini workshops developed around the ATHENA Leadership Tenets, aimed at developing and fostering women in leadership. The expected attendance is 80+ members.

\$1,500 Presenting Sponsorship (Limit of 2, non-competing)

\$250 Engagement Sponsor



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Community Development Division of the Henderson County Chamber helps maintain strong relationships and brings people and businesses together in order to maintain a tightknit community through an array of different programs and groups. The Empower Her committee helps bring light to women in business, recognize the accomplishments of women in Henderson County, and encourages the Henderson County business community to provide equal opportunities for everyone. The Camp Industry Committee and Healthy Lifestyles Committee help bring enjoyment to the community and promote a healthier, happier way of living.

ATHENA Nominees Reception

The ATHENA Nominees Reception honors the nominees for the ATHENA award, which is presented at the Business and Professional Women's Luncheon in the Spring. The expected audience includes the nominees, nominators, the Board of Directors and community leaders.

\$2,000 Presenting Sponsorship (limit of 2, non-competing)

\$300 Supporting Sponsorship (limit of 4, non-competing)

EmpowerHer Program Partner

EmpowerHer Program Partners will have their name listed in the Business & Professional Women's Luncheon Program, along with the bios for the ATHENA nominees. Program partners help offset additional costs associated with the luncheon and speaker.

\$100 Engagement Sponsorship

Empower Hour

The Empower Hours are women-centric networking opportunities hosted quarterly at rotating locations. Expected attendance is 40+ members.

\$1,000 Presenting Sponsorship

\$300 Supporting Sponsorship

Apple Festival Races

Held in conjunction with the North Carolina Apple Festival, this event offers a prime sponsorship opportunity with significant community engagement. We expect 300 – 400 runners and over 40 dedicated staff and volunteers.

The races include 5k and 8k options, and the Chick-Fil-A Mini Moo Fun Run for families. Sponsorship offers visibility and alignment with a beloved community event, enhancing your business's presence and community support.

\$7,500 Presenting Sponsorship

\$1,500 Platinum Medal Sponsorship

\$500 Gold Medal Sponsorship

\$250 Silver Medal Sponsorship

\$100 Bronze Medal Sponsorship

Newcomer's Guide to Henderson County, NC

The Newcomer's Guide to Henderson County is published annually and distributed to everyone who inquires about relocating to our area. With a print run of 2,500 copies, the guide is also available through the Henderson County Travel and Tourism office. Each edition features our full membership directory, offering extensive exposure for our members. All ads are full color, full page, and artwork should be delivered to the Chamber print-ready.

\$1,600 back page

\$1,500 middle

\$1,300 inside covers.

\$1,000 full pages.

Camp Field Day

Enjoy a friendly competition involving archery, riflery, rock climbing and other field day activities. The event culminates with awards and s'mores around the campfire. This is a fantastic opportunity for networking, team building and fun while learning about the camp industry's economic impact in Henderson County. Expected attendance is 120+.

\$1,500 Presenting Sponsorship (limit 4, non-competing)

\$750 Supporting Sponsorship

\$500 Engagement Sponsorship

\$300 Team of 4

Outdoor Industry Open House

Each year the Chamber promotes the local outdoor recreation industry by hosting an open house at a location which highlights the industry. Attendance can range from 60 - 100+ members and includes a participatory activity such as hiking, kayaking, zip-lining, etc.

\$1,000 Presenting Sponsorship (limit 2, non-competing)

Vision Henderson County Alumni Meetings

The Vision Alumni Association holds quarterly meetings to provide alumni with information on timely community issues. These meetings also offer opportunities to build relationships and discover volunteer opportunities. Attendance varies from 40 - 100 +.

\$500 Supporting Sponsorship (meets quarterly)

Young Professionals Monthly Socials

The Young Professionals of Henderson County offer monthly networking opportunities for professionals under 40 to elevate and connect. These socials include idea exchanges, guest speakers, a complimentary beverage, and stylish mingling.

\$1,200 Presenting Sponsorship (limit 2, non-competing)

\$200 Host (1 per Month)

Young Professionals Community Tours

Support our Young Professionals group through their quarterly community tours, providing insights into diverse local businesses and organizations. These tours highlight the impact of local work and foster valuable connections among young professionals and seasoned experts. Sponsoring these tours facilitates exceptional community engagement, professional growth, and network expansion.

\$1,000 Presenting Sponsorship (limit 2, non-competing)

\$200 Host (1 per Quarter)

Young Professionals Gala Night

This premier event brings together the brightest minds and emerging leaders in our community. It features networking opportunities, inspiring guest speakers, and a celebration of professional achievements in style.

\$1,500 Presenting Sponsorship (limit 2, non-competing)

\$300 Engagement

Board of Directors Retreat

Each December, the Chamber's Board of Directors gathers to strategically plan the next year's Program of Work. This activity helps the organization better serve its membership and efficiently use its volunteer and staffing resources. Sponsorships defray the cost of facilitation, food, and beverages.

\$1,000 Presenting Sponsorship

\$500 Supporting Sponsorship

\$300 Engagement Sponsorship

Total Resource Campaign

The Chamber's Total Resource Campaign is vital to the organization's success and financial viability.

\$1,000 Presenting Sponsorship (limit of 2, non-competing)

\$200 Engagement *Campaign Report Session Host

E-Newsletter

The Chamber's E-Newsletter, published each Tuesday, keeps members up to date on Chamber and community topics of interest. It reaches more than 2,500 members and representatives.

\$3,000 Annual Sponsorship

\$100 display advertisement per week (limit 2 per week)



FOCUS ON MEMBERS

Through our Focus on Members Division, we celebrate and support our members with a variety of engaging and impactful initiatives. Each year, we host the Annual Dinner & Awards, a prestigious event that honors the achievements and contributions of businesses and individuals in our community. Our Total Resource Campaign plays a pivotal role in strengthening our Chamber by driving membership growth and securing essential resources. Additionally, we provide the weekly E-news, offering a valuable opportunity for increased business visibility within the community. Through these activities and more, we ensure that our members receive the recognition, support, and resources they need to thrive.

Annual Meeting

Each year, the Chamber celebrates its successes and presents multiple awards at the Annual Meeting. Sponsors defray the event costs.

\$3,000 Presenting Sponsorship (limited to 2 non-competing)

\$1,500 Supporting Sponsorship (includes Entertainment and Toast)

\$500 Engagement Sponsorship (includes 2 tickets)

\$600 Table of 8

\$75 Individual

Annual Awards

Small Business Leader

\$2,000 Sponsorship (includes quarterly & annual awards)

*includes table of 8 at Small Business Breakfast

Ambassador of the Year

\$2,000 Sponsorship (includes quarterly & annual awards)

*includes table of 8 at Annual Meeting

Industrialist of the Year

\$1,000 Sponsorship (annual award)

\$1,500 Includes a table of 8 at the Annual Meeting

Education Champion

\$1,000 Sponsorship (annual award)

\$1,500 Includes a table of 8 at the Annual Meeting

Camp Industry Leadership

\$1,000 Sponsorship (annual award)

\$1,500 Includes a table of 8 at the Annual Meeting

Environmental Sustainability

\$1,000 Sponsorship (annual award)

\$1,500 Includes a table of 8 at the Annual Meeting

Non-Profit of the Year

\$1,000 Sponsorship (annual award)

\$1,500 Includes a table of 8 at the Annual Meeting

Top 4 Under 40

\$1,000 Sponsorship (annual award)

\$1,500 Includes a table of 8 at the Annual Meeting

ATHENA

\$3,000 Sponsorship (annual award)

*Includes a table of 8 at Professional Women's Luncheon

SurPrize Patrol

Every quarter, Chamber Ambassadors visit selected businesses and organizations to say, "Thank You!" for their continued support and investment in Henderson County and the Chamber. This event is a fun way to connect with local businesses, share Chamber updates, and receive updates from members.

\$500 Supporting Sponsorship

\$100 Engagement Sponsorship (limit of 4, limit 1 per quarter)



VOICE OF BUSINESS

The Voice of Business Division of our Chamber serves as an influential advocate for the business community. We ensure the needs and perspectives of local businesses through effective communication and engage with local government officials and community leaders, as well as state officials. Key initiatives programs under this division include: Raleigh Advocacy Trip, Public Policy Committee, Communication Resources and the occasional DC Advocacy Trip. We're committed to promoting the vibrant and sustainable business environment that has captured Henderson County, striving to encourage innovation, investment and growth, benefiting everyone.

Board Lunches

The Chamber's Board of Directors meets on the 3rd Monday of each month to determine policies and direction. Your business can provide lunch for the meeting, removing this expense from our operating budget. You will receive up to 5 minutes at the start of the meeting to promote your business and be thanked by the Chairman for your support.

\$300 Engagement Sponsorship

Parking Spaces

Greet guests as they arrive at the Chamber with a "Parking provided by (Your Logo)" sign in an available space.

\$600 First Year (limit 2)

\$300 Renewal

Staff Development

Support the continued growth of Chamber staff by helping offset costs for professional development opportunities like conferences and the Institute for Organization Management.

\$500

Website Banner Ad

Showcase your business with a custom banner ad on the Chamber website, visible to members and visitors alike. banners are displayed for 1 year.

\$500

Public Policy Advocacy Partner

As a valued partner in our Public Policy Advocacy initiative, your sponsorship is crucial in advancing the mission of our Chamber. This sponsorship supports and enables us to represent our business community's interests at local, state, and federal levels, ensuring that our members' voices are heard on critical issues.

\$3,000 Presenting Sponsorship

Government Relations Programs

The Chamber's Public Policy Committee organizes an annual candidate forum for various political positions. These forums include briefings with elected representatives discussing current business-related matters. Expected attendance can range from 50 - 100.

State Legislative Outlook Breakfast - \$1,000 (limit of 2, non-competing)

Legislative Briefings - \$750 Sponsorship (limit of 3, non-competing)

Candidates Forum - \$500 Sponsorship (limit of 4, non-competing)

Raleigh Advocacy Trip

The Chamber collaborates with other WNC Chambers for an annual trip to Raleigh, where we meet with local legislators and key department personnel. This trip provides a valuable opportunity to advocate for local projects and programs, emphasizing economic and business issues.

\$1,000 Community Advocacy Partner (limit of 3, non-competing)

\$500 Engagement Sponsorship (limit 3, non-competing)

Washington DC Fly-In

The Chamber joins a coalition of Western North Carolina Chambers for a visit to our Nation's Capital to advocate on behalf of our region. This initiative is vital part to ensuring that the voices and needs of our local businesses are heard at the highest levels of government.

\$1,500 Presenting (2 non-competing)

\$500 Engagement Sponsorship (limit 3, non-competing)



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

The Education & Workforce Division of our local Chamber is dedicated to building a strong and skilled community through various programs in partnership with Henderson County Public Schools, Blue Ridge Community College, and more. We focus on both the future workforce and education by offering programs such as the Junior Leaders Program, which empowers high school juniors with leadership skills and community knowledge, and an apprenticeship program in collaboration with the local college. Additionally, we host events like the Teachers of the Year Reception and New Teacher Breakfast, highlighting the importance of our fine educators in the community. Operating under our Chamber's Foundation as a 501(c)(3), we are committed to fostering growth, collaboration, and community engagement.

Golf Tournament

This annual tournament serves as a crucial fundraiser for the Hendersonville Area Chamber of Commerce Foundation (501c3) and its workforce development efforts. Programs that run under the Foundation include Teacher of the Year Reception, Junior Leaders Program, Apprenticeships and more!

\$4,000 Presenting Sponsorship (Limit of 2, non-competing)

\$1,500 Supporting Sponsorship with Team of 4

\$1,000 Supporting Sponsorship without Team

\$900 Team of 4 and Hole Sponsorship

\$800 Team of 4

\$150 Hole Sponsorship

NC Scholars Luncheon

Each spring, we hold the NC Scholars Luncheon with the Henderson County Public Schools. This program honors high school seniors who have earned the "Scholars" designation with a luncheon, program and recognition ceremony. The expected attendance includes 170+ students, their parents/guardians, as well as educators, faculty and staff.

\$1,500 Presenting Sponsorship (Limited to 3, non competing)

\$100 Engagement Sponsorship

Chamber Trivia Challenge

This annual event raises funds for the Chamber's Education & Workforce Division initiatives. The brain-challenging tournament offers a fantastic opportunity for networking, team building, and fun. Your business can sponsor a team for one of our area schools or participate with your own team. If you choose to sponsor a school team, you can select a school to support, subject to availability on a first-come, first-served basis.

\$1,000 Presenting Sponsorship (limit of 2, non-competing)

\$500 Supporting Sponsorship

\$250 Engagement Sponsorship

\$150 Team of 4

\$100 School Team of 4 Sponsorship (limit 1 per school)

Junior Leadership Program

The Junior Leadership Program offers area high school juniors the chance to learn about our community and develop their leadership skills. The program includes eight courses, and sponsors help cover the associated costs.

\$1,500 Presenting Sponsorship

\$500 Supporting Sponsorship

\$300 Engagement Sponsorship (limit of 6)

New Teachers Breakfast

The New Teachers Breakfast is held each fall to honor and thank new teachers for coming to our area to practice their profession. The expected attendance is 100+ new teachers and administration from the Henderson County Public Schools.

\$1,500 Presenting Sponsorship (limit of 3, non-competing)

\$500 Supporting Sponsorship

\$100 Engagement Sponsorship

Teacher of the Year Award

Every year, all 23 Henderson County Public Schools select a Teacher of the Year. The Chamber collaborates with the schools to honor these outstanding educators with a Henderson County Appreciation Gift Package.

Your support helps us provide these packages.

\$500 Presenting Sponsorship (Limit of 5, non-competing)

ALL IN FOR HENDO

Every year, our community, and the business community are presented with new challenges and opportunities. All In for Hendo is the Chamber's rapid reaction fund to address unbudgeted and unforeseen challenges when businesses face damages, illness or other unexpected set-backs. We also use these funds to support programs like Apprenticeship, Mission Acceleration, Scholarships and more.

\$2,500 Business Champion

\$1,000 Business Partner

\$500 Business Supporter



2025-2026 Total Resource Campaign Committee Members

Jared Bellmund
Roy Dickerson
Candi Guffey
Bob Williford
Amy Muniz
Pete Juergens
Chris Angel
Ragan Ward, Co-Chair
Sherri Holbert
Fair Nabers Waggoner, Co-Chair
Nikki Hopkins

ALLCHOICE Insurance
Baabals Ice Cream Shoppe
Looking Glass Realty
Henderson County Chamber
Henderson County Chamber
Horizon Heating & Air
Mountain Credit Union
Park National Bank
Patton Allen Real Estate
United Community
United Community Mortgage

