



COVID-19 Donation to the Angel Fund/Support Request

June 9, 2020

Request

The Apex Chamber of Commerce has a two-part request:

1. We are respectfully asking the Apex Town Council to partner with the Apex Chamber of Commerce and the Apex Rotary Foundation to support our Angel Fund. We have created this fund to support the many businesses in Apex who have been negatively affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. We are asking that the town consider donating \$20,000 to this fund. 100% of the donation will go back to small businesses in Apex. The donations is also tax deductible.
2. We are also respectfully asking the Apex Town Council to consider supporting the Apex Chamber of Commerce during this challenging time. A chamber of commerce is the center of business in communities across the country. We not only support our membership but we also support our local communities on behalf of the town we serve by facilitating recognition and events for our teachers, first responders, youth leadership and hold a candidates forum during election years. We also raise money each year to give to our local schools to assist children who may go without.

As a 501©6 we do not qualify for a PPP loan at this time. As you can imagine, our members are not renewing at an alarming rate and all of our fundraising events have been cancelled until further notice. We would be extremely grateful for any amount that is offered; however, we are asking that the council consider a donation in the amount of \$20,000. We believe that this amount will help assist us throughout the summer months.

Who will these funds support?

1. The funds that are received for the Angel Fund will be awarded to approved applicants. We have received 50 applications for consideration. Our goal is to award up to \$3500 to applicants. It would be our desire to award each applicant a gift of a grant but that will be dependent on what the final number is that we are able to raise. Our goal is \$200,000. The criteria to receive a grant is the following:
 - a. Be a small business with less than 20 full time employees
 - b. Be independently owned and operated/non-profits are able to apply

- c. Be located in Apex (Apex chamber members who fit this criteria and located outside of Apex are welcome to apply)
2. If awarded funds the Apex Chamber of Commerce would use the money towards our operational expenses.

On behalf of the Apex Chamber Board of Directors I want to thank you for consideration of our requests. We are truly grateful for any contribution you are able to provide. I am happy to answer any questions should they arise.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shannon K. Flaherty". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Shannon K. Flaherty
Executive Director