



# Membership Application

We are delighted you have decided to join us! Please complete this form so we may begin processing your membership application immediately. This membership application is subject to approval of the Advisory Council (as stated in the bylaws).

Member Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Business: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Employees: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax : \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Web site address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please include a brief description of your business (approx. 30 words) on the back of this form.

Payment Enclosed    *Chamber dues are deductible as ordinary and necessary business expense*  
Please Bill:    Annual        Semi-Annual        Quarterly

**Miami County Chamber of Commerce**



# Your Investment

## FAIR SHARE MEMBERSHIP SCHEDULE:

### For commercial, industrial and retail firm:

<u>Number of Employees</u>		<u>Investment</u>
1-5		\$210
6-10		250
11-20		330
21-30		400
31-40		420
41-50		450

Over 50 Employees: Base rate \$450 plus \$2.00 per employee over 50  
(Note: Employee count is based on full time equivalent)

### For financial institutions:

Per million dollars of deposits - minimum \$250

### For professional firms: (Physicians, Attorneys, Accountants, Dentists)

\$200 for first principal, plus \$100 for each additional principal or professional

### For utilities:

\$0.07 per meter or service

### For associate, part-time business, self-employed, home based business:

\$110.00 - Associations, Service Clubs, Fraternal or Religious Organizations

### For retired individual:

\$110.00 - A person that is retired and no longer an active employee and is not representing his or her previous business or organization.

### For families:

\$50.00

**Miami County Chamber of Commerce**



# Why Join?

## WHY JOIN THE CHAMBER?

As a member of Miami County's leading business organization, your membership makes a statement to your employees and your customers. *You and your* employees become an integral part of your community by providing valuable input, sharing leadership skills, ideas, and concerns, and by participating in a variety of marketing and networking opportunities. Your membership will enable you to expand *your* business contacts, strengthen *your* customer base, and provide higher visibility for *your* business.

Your Miami County Chamber of Commerce membership is important because....

- **Your input is valued!**
- **Your Chamber promotes your business to others by phone, mail, email and internet!**
- **You make valuable business contacts!**
- **You get exposure through our weekly email newsletter and Facebook shares**
- **Your "Member to Member" support is highly encouraged!**
- **You receive informational assistance from your Chamber!**
- **You gain exceptional networking opportunities!**
- **Your voice can be part of local Government interaction!**
- **You receive Membership, Business, and Industrial/Supplier Directories!**
- **Resource 211, Small Business Fact Sheet Booklet and Clubs and Organizations directories are also available!**
- **You have the opportunity to link onto our website!**
- **You and your employees become a part of your business community!**

**Miami County Chamber of Commerce**



# The Chamber's Plan

## **THE CHAMBER'S PLAN FOR SUCCESS INVOLVES COORDINATED, CONCENTRATED ACTION.**

The Chamber represents a group of business people with diversified talents, interests, ideas and needs. As a member, you and your employees have many opportunities to address and accomplish projects in the community on a consistent basis. The Chamber's goal is to assist business growth and stability in Miami County.

### ***Miami County Chamber Public Relations***

The Chamber conducts Ribbon Cuttings/Celebrations, Grand Openings, Ground Breakings, and Open Houses. All activities are designed to welcome new businesses and to assist existing businesses.

The Miami Mike is given to Chamber member businesses in Miami County who have made a significant improvement to the interior and/or exterior of their building and/or grounds.

The Chamber networks with businesses, employers and employees within the county and encourages them to be more involved in the community.

What's Up 24/7 destination and promoting your businesses and activities, fundraisers and events through their app platform.

### ***Governmental Affairs***

This committee offers the business person and their employees an opportunity to interact with local and state officials.

Third House Sessions offer the opportunity to have dialogue with our State Senator and Representatives and be aware of current legislation that impacts the business community.

Meet the Candidate is an opportunity for local candidates to introduce themselves and inform the community of the position of the office they are running for.

### ***Tourism***

Tourism gives individuals, businesses and attractions the opportunity to be a part of promoting Miami County.

If you are interested in finding new ways to work with the tourism bureau in promoting your business, feel free to give us a call!

**Miami County Chamber of Commerce**



# The Chamber Team

## 2025 ADVISORY COUNCIL

**Linda Baker**

Shearer Printing  
765-473-1179

**Mike Barron**

Broadway Broadband  
765-473-6668

**Chris Wolfe**

Bryan Steam  
765-473-6651

**Steve Reiff**

Converse EDC  
Tourism Commission  
765-506-4567

**Staff**

**Sandy Chittum**  
President

**Amy Kauffman**  
Front Office Coordinator  
for the CRC Bldg

**Miami County Chamber of Commerce**



# Benefits of Membership

**Mission Statement:** The Miami County Chamber of Commerce promotes a strong business and industrial climate for it's members through a partnership between businesses and the community of Miami County.

The key words in the mission statement are members and community. Here are just a few things your Chamber is doing:

**Governmental Legislative Issues** - As a member, your voice is heard on various local and state issues that can impact your business. The Chamber will keep you up to date on the issues.

**Tourists, new businesses and general public** - By being a member, you have the opportunity to put brochures and pamphlets at our Chamber office. Chamber member's info is also given out to help promote your business through relocation and visiting requests and walk-ins.

**Retail** - Retail businesses can be part of our gift certificate program. Approximately \$5,000 in gift certificates are purchased each year. This is money that stays in Miami County and is being spent at our Chamber member's businesses.

**Business referrals** - the Chamber receives many calls for business referrals. These referrals are directed first to Chamber members.

**Membership Directory** - your name and business will be listed in the Chamber Membership Directory. The Directory is on our website with direct link to your business. By being a member, your name will be given out as a referral over a non- member.

**Third House Sessions** are held to give the public an opportunity to voice their opinions and ask questions to our State Senator and House Representative.

**Meet the Candidate** - Chamber co-sponsors this event to give the public an opportunity to ask questions of the candidates running for offices.

**Information Center** - The Chamber is the information center for the county. People in the county, as well as tourists, can find information on about anything. For example: Calendar of Events for Miami County, housing, utilities, churches, festivals, business info, free brochures, maps, telephone books, etc. The Chamber office can also provide you with the contact information to other Chambers in areas that you may be visiting.

**Santa House** gives our children an opportunity to visit with Santa and put their wish list in the Santa mailbox.

**Tourism Department** is located in the Chamber offices and provides information on tourist attractions free of charge as well as bringing tourists to our area. Tourists help enhance the local economy as they stay in our hotels, eat in our restaurant and shop in our businesses.

**Sponsorship** opportunities are available for any Chamber event

**Miami County Farmers Market** - runs May through September on Saturdays from 9 am to 1 pm on East Fifth Street between North Broadway and Court Street in Peru. Essential oils, balms, etc. Jewelry, eggs, honey, teas, fresh produce, beef, pork, broths and clothing, homemade pies, cookies and breads along with live entertainment.

**Advertising Opportunities** - here are a few ways you can advertise your business: Chamber weekly email blasts. Opportunity to use our internet and free link for your business on our website. With the advancement of technology, the internet has become a valuable tool for business growth. For our longer term members, we have our Business of the Month award with a sign that is displayed in front of the business for a month.

**Networking Opportunities** - to enhance your business there are Chamber programs that vary from year to year such as Business Breaks, Business Exchanges, Business Celebrations, Ribbon Cuttings, along with events such as the Chamber Annual Program/Brochure, First Fridays, workshops, and many other activities throughout the year. We are also working with Ivy Tech Community College in Peru and SBDC with various training opportunities.

**Chamber staff involvement in the community** - the Chamber staff plays a major role in being a part of the community by being involved in many activities and organizations such as Peru Rotary, Miami County Economic Development Authority, Peru Kiwanis, United Way, Peru Lions Club, Peru Optimist Club, Peru Circus, Circus Hall of Fame, Community Services, Miami County Community Foundation, ReDiscover Downtown Peru Main Street, Ivy Tech Community College, IUK Advisory Council, Miami County Tourism Bureau, AICVB, Indiana Tourism to name a few.

**Small Business Development Center** offers free service to help your existing business or information on how to start a new business. Free counseling with the Small Business Development Center offers existing and new businesses counseling to help their businesses. The Chamber works closely with SBDC in offering various types of seminars throughout the year that will help your business/industry with their various needs at little or no charge. SBDC is in the Chamber monthly and will also set up one on one meetings here in Miami County as needed.

**Leadership Miami County** - is a program designed to teach leadership skills and community awareness. Class participants are given a behind the scenes look at Peru and Miami County. This program is with the Miami County Economic Development Authority, Miami County Community Foundation and Purdue Extension in Miami County.

**SBDC Fact Sheet Booklet** has information on how to start a business and who to contact. Great information to help you get started!

**Downtown Peru Christmas Open House** is the third or fourth Saturday of November with businesses open, giveaways, refreshments, various venues, ice skating rink, entertainment, window decorating, parade, Santa House and stamping page. Fun for the entire family!

**Community Development** - the Miami County Chamber of Commerce is working on developing marketing strategies for our downtown businesses, working with real estate brokers, investors and building owners and keeping informed of all buying/selling/renting prospects, identifying opportunities, developed an entrepreneur “help” program and coordinated with other entities to create a guide with steps that need to be done to open a business in Peru.

**Job Listings** - on the Chamber website. This is available to all Chamber businesses to place job openings or seeking employment on the website at no charge. With the advantage of Chamber networking and the quality of the workforce available through the Chamber members, this is a great opportunity for all members.

**Social Media** - the chamber has two facebook sites that it manages along with the tourism facebook page and farmers market facebook page. Facebook shares are done daily along with posts of upcoming events and Gold Member spotlights.

**Email Blasts** - sent out weekly to Chamber members and the media to keep all informed on upcoming activities, events, promotions and information.

**Chamber Chatter** is emailed out weekly to all Chamber members.

**Business Recognition** - Each month a business will be recognized for their years of dedication to the community and a good standing Chamber member. A sign is placed at their place of business along with newspaper recognition.

**Employee Spotlight** - Chamber members can recognize their employees on our email blasts. We love to promote your employee doing a great job!

**Ivy Tech Community College** - works closely with the Chamber with coordinating seminars and workshops along with further education opportunities.

**Community Projects** - the Chamber is working with different organizations in the community that are in the need of volunteers to help with various projects throughout the county. What a great way of supporting your community and giving back through participating in volunteer projects.

**Lunch and Learn Series/Workshops** - 1 to 2 workshops per year with great topics and useful information. Every year is different.

**First Fridays** - The first Friday of each month. HR Roundtable from 8 am to 9 am at the CRC building.

**Annual Report/Brochure** - has information pertaining to the Chamber’s accomplishments and involvement in the community as well as Chamber member businesses, attractions, museums and festivals/events.