

ANSWERS TO COMMON CONCERNS ABOUT THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

“There are too many organizations! I can’t contribute to them all!”

Chamber membership is a tax-deductible business expense as identified by the IRS. You are investing in your community by joining the Chamber of Commerce and supporting the growth of the city where your business is located.

“No time for it!”

We realize you are busy! The Chamber offers many different programs at different times to accommodate different schedules. Maybe there is someone else from your company who might be able to attend. Remember that your membership covers everyone at your firm! Also, if you can’t attend, you need more than ever to make sure that the Chamber is working for you! Support the organization that is working in your best business interest! You can still take an active role in the Chamber by providing financial support.

“The Chamber gets plenty of money from the government (city, county, state, etc.)”

Not true! Our entire budget comes from dues and fundraising.

“I belong to too many organizations!”

The Clintonville Area Chamber of Commerce is unique in that it can be classified as a necessary department of your local business. It is the ONLY organization that addresses the goal of serving all business commercially and individually, for the entire Clintonville area!

“I do my business out of town”

Your assessments, taxes, services (fire, police, water, electricity) and your labor supply are here! Isn’t it possible that a favorable tax rate and healthy economy would make this a good place to maintain your home and office? We hope so!

“We just have a branch in Clintonville”

That certainly is proof that your company values Clintonville as a good location. Your company is probably interested in making Clintonville still better, business-wise.

“I’m just a small business—I’m just too small”

84% of our membership is small business—you represent the majority of all Chamber members! Many small and home-based businesses have made significant growth as a result of their Chamber involvement. Small business can’t grow in isolation. Small businesses benefit from membership by taking an active role in Chamber projects, communities, and networking activities that increase your contacts with business and community leaders.

“I don’t agree with everything that the Chamber does”

If so, then more than ever we need you! We need to make sure that all voices are heard on important issues. We make every attempt to be responsive to every member. Help us by sharing your input. If we occasionally disagree, it’s okay...it’s difficult to be in 100% agreement 100% of the time with over 150 members. But we do our best to represent the total business picture in our area for the betterment of us all. When you have concerns, your Chamber is here to listen. Please call the staff or one of the board members to let them know!

“I used to belong, but didn’t get anything out of it”

Membership brings a responsibility at some level to make a commitment of what your involvement level can be. We all join for different reasons. If the time is not right for you to be “hands-on” in a committee or attend many events, that’s okay. Your financial support allows the Chamber to continue to work for you.

“I can’t afford to join right now”

Actually, now more than ever, you can’t afford not to! The Chamber is one organization working to strengthen business in our community, increase your contacts, and keep our economy growing and stable. We also have several dues payment options (annual, semiannual, and quarterly).