

Jamestown Chamber of Commerce Member Benefits

Jamestown Chamber of Commerce

Chamber Website – Our website at www.jamestownRIchamber.com is a resource for our membership, island residents and tourists. The website includes our membership listings, which contain member profiles and detailed business description. Event information is also posted on the Chamber website. We are continually working on the site to make it a resource for information on our members and island.

Jamestown Map – The Chamber's Jamestown street map is printed annually and distributed throughout town and is a great resource used by both residents and visitors. There is an additional fee to advertise in this piece, with ad placement offered only to member businesses.

Newsletter – The Chamber newsletter is a resource for Chamber members to promote their businesses to fellow members and for the Chamber to update our membership on activities and relevant business information. The newsletter is produced periodically and is sent to members through e-mail (a hard copy can be provided if requested). Members are encouraged to advise the Chamber of changes in their business, such as new lines of business, promotions, relocation, milestones, so that they can be announced to our membership. Members who would like to be featured in either the newsletter or website (or both) can contact the Chamber at 423-3650 or info@jamestownRIchamber.com.

Networking - Each month a local business hosts a casual atmosphere Chamber "After Hours" get-together for members to meet with one another and exchange business ideas, referrals and news about our community. The meetings are held at various locations throughout Jamestown and are a great opportunity for you to showcase your business to fellow members. Members are encouraged to consider hosting an After Hours.

Chamber Chatter – Each month, *The Jamestown Press* features a column written by the current Chamber President. This article features information on upcoming events and activities and is a great way to let our community know what the Chamber is doing.

Jamestown Representation – The Chamber takes an active role with Jamestown Town Government. Member input is solicited so the Chamber can properly present business concerns and issues to the Planning and Zoning Commissions. The Chamber has a "Government Liaison" to ensure that interests of Chamber members are communicated to the Town. The Town's planning and zoning ordinances are in the process of being reviewed and rewritten, and the Chamber has taken an active role in the process and decisions that will be made.

Chamber Check Program – The Chamber issues "Chamber Checks" that are available for purchase at Baker's Pharmacy, Conanicut Marine Ship's Store, Grapes & Gourmet, and Jamestown Hardware. Members have the option to accept Chamber Checks as payment for goods or services and are then reimbursed dollar for dollar for checks submitted back to the Chamber. Reimbursements are typically issued within one week of receipt. Participating businesses are included in promotions done for the Chamber Check program. For the past 3 years, the Chamber has sold over \$5,000 Chamber Checks each year – this is money that can only be spent with participating businesses so why not participate.

Downtown Visibility – The Chamber has an “official” downtown location for visitors and tourists to obtain Chamber brochures, maps and member information at East Bay Bed & Breakfast, 14 Union Street. Members can put business cards or flyers in a space open to the public. Members who would like to add a brochure or business card can stop by 14 Union Street or contact the Chamber at info@jamestownRIchamber.com, or 423-3650.

Community Events – The Chamber takes an active role in hosting events and activities open to our community. Events have included the Winter Breakfast Series, Summer Trolley Tours, Chamber Business Expo, Polar Express Trolley Ride, and Night at the....Fundraiser.

Scholarship – Each May the Chamber grants two \$500 scholarships to Jamestown residents pursuing studies in a business related field. Although typically given to students entering college, there are no age restrictions and members and their employees are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity.

Referrals & Inquiries – Inquiries received by the Chamber via our local phone number or email address are referred exclusively to Chamber members. Customer information may be forwarded to your email address for direct follow up, or the Chamber will give out your name and phone number. The most common inquiries are related to lodging, rentals, or relocation, sailing/boating charters and marine services, and Jamestown attractions and events.

Membership Database – Each member may request a copy of the Chamber membership database for their own marketing and promotions. The database is provided as pre-printed labels with business, contact name, and address. We do not distribute email addresses.

Health & Dental Insurance - Through Health Services Administration (HSA), the Chamber can provide group rates for health and dental insurance. For more information, call our designated HSA customer service representative, Linda Glew at 942-0966 x101, who can provide rates and details on coverage.