



# Mission

The Indy Chamber empowers business to ensure all have the opportunity to succeed in the Indianapolis region.

At the outset of COVID-19's impact on the Indianapolis regional economy, the Indy Chamber acted quickly to get trusted information and resources in the hands of small business owners via the creation of its **Rapid Response Hub**. This platform and service offering served as the backbone to numerous subsequent initiatives, all tailored to address the progressive waves of inquiries from one-on-one interaction with small businesses.

These initiatives included:

- **Rapid Response Loans** of up to \$25,000 to serve as a financial bridge until additional assistance became available
- **Virtual Town Halls**, a series of webinars with subject matter experts discussing best practices to address various aspects of COVID-19
- **Buy Indy**, a support local campaign aimed at informing the public on how to purchase local goods and services while sheltering in place
- A landmark partnership with **Bankable**, allowing the Indy Chamber to administer federal **Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Loans** up to \$75,000
- **Rapid Response Talent**, a collaboration with the City of Indianapolis, EmployIndy, and Ascend Indiana to quickly connect job seekers with employment opportunities
- Administration of the **RESTART Grant Program** in partnership with the City of Indianapolis to help Marion County businesses purchase PPE in preparation for safely reopening
- A partnership with the IU Kelley School of Business for the **Rapid Recovery Series** of webinars to help small businesses strategize and optimally reopen

To create these initiatives, nearly 80% of the Indy Chamber's staff were at least temporarily reassigned to help administer these programs. This was a quick but necessary shift to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with small business owners fighting an existential threat in COVID-19. For more information please visit <https://www.response.indychamber.com/>