



Collaboration in Crisis – an update from the Fuquay-Varina Chamber of Commerce

The Fuquay-Varina Chamber of Commerce has been busier than ever during the quarantine. We recently collaborated with the Fuquay-Varina Downtown Association and numerous Fuquay-Varina businesses to create the Fuquay-Varina Angel Fund. Through this grant fund, we raised **\$121k**, which was then divided and donated to **56** local businesses hit hard by the COVID-19 crisis. The sole goal of this initiative was to ensure that those businesses were able to make rent or payroll on April 1st. Start to finish, this project was executed in less than 2 weeks and made a significant, direct impact on the lives of many – an incredible accomplishment for our Chamber, our partners, and our community!

We set a precedent early on to share as much valuable information as possible with our members and our community and as a result, have rapidly become a go to source for our over 4,300 Facebook followers. As many can attest, simply keeping those updates current is a full-time job. In the coming weeks, we will continue providing links to resources, sharing opportunities to support local through take-out orders or essential services (as examples), and working to host free, virtual, professional development content on our various platforms. We have our first in this virtual series beginning on 4/30/20, with more to follow.

We believe in our mission and that supporting local is more critical now than ever. This is a time for creativity and community, which is why we are so grateful to have incredible members, volunteers, and partners beside us as we find our “next normal” together.

We also appreciate the efforts of the CACCE and thank you for sharing this update with your members.

Thank you,

Kate Davis

Executive Director, FVCO