

BATTLE CREEK

# insight

a publication of the Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce

WELCOME TO  
Battle Creek

July | Aug | Sept 2021

## welcome new members

- Rotary Club of Battle Creek
- OEO Energy Solutions
- MAGNA Cosma Casting
- Handmap Brewing
- Breeze
- Aspidistra Naturals, Inc
- Cakes by Boo
- Creating with KK
- Margarita 1014 Boutique
- New Story Community Books
- Sweet Addicts
- Theirlooms
- Simply Sensational Berries
- T-Mobile

## our vision

The Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce is the premier business association whose influence, solutions, and networks drive economic growth in the Battle Creek area, enabling businesses, community and people to prosper in an ever-changing economy.

## our mission

The Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce will provide the best in member services and aggressive business advocacy to create a climate for employer growth and a prosperous community for all.



BATTLE CREEK AREA  
CHAMBER

UNITED STATES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

ACCREDITED



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Kara Beer, IOM, MPA

### A Century OF SERVICE

For over a century, the Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce has been the enthusiastic voice and supporter of our diverse business community.

Networking, promotion, advocacy, business resources, and strategic partners, position our members for success. From a one-person start-up with a vision to organizations with thousands of employees, there is something here for everyone who loves business.

In June 2021, I celebrated ten (10) years as the leader of this great organization, and I could not be prouder of the work we are doing and have done. The success of this organization is only made possible by the outstanding members, board of directors, staff, and community.

Looking back over the 10 years and what we have accomplished and created together have been nothing short of amazing. From new Member 2 Member discounts, member discounts, membership growth, networking opportunities, community festivals and initiatives, gift certificate programs, advocacy platforms, being placed in the top 1% of Chambers of Commerce in the nation for the entire 10 years, and more.

Wow...it certainly does not seem like it could have been 10 years already, that went by in a flash!

Congrats on your anniversary and thank you for everything you have done for the Chamber, its members, and the city of Battle Creek! The Board knew you would do a fantastic job when we made you the offer, and you have exceeded our wildest expectations in how you've grown the Chamber over the past decade...congrats on all of your success, you've earned it!

~ Travis (Board Chair 2011)

Travis G. Morse | Associate Vice President of Investments,  
Assistant Branch Manager

The Buikema, Oursler, Morse Financial Team of Janney  
Montgomery Scott, LLC

Janney Montgomery Scott, LLC

Personally, I have had great success professionally here and it is because of our membership, and most importantly the dynamic leadership of the board of directors. I have had some of the best board chairs in my ten years that honestly, my peers are jealous of, and I am grateful for each and everyone who has served on our board for the past 10 years.

I have been asked what next, well folks, I am excited to say that I am looking forward to exceeding your expectations here at the Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce for years to come and working with all of you in the future. Cheers to the next 10 years!

All My Best,

Kara Beer

One Riverwalk Centre, Suite 3A,  
34 West Jackson Street, Battle Creek, MI 49017  
BattleCreek.org

269.962.4076





## member anniversaries

### 50 Year Anniversary

Bedford Charter Township  
BlueOx Credit Union

### 40 Year Anniversary

Kellogg Arena

### 25 Year Anniversary

Battle Creek Unlimited, Inc.

### 20 Year Anniversary

CSE Morse, Inc.  
Kellogg Community Credit Union  
Progressive Printing & Graphics

### 15 Year Anniversary

Battle Creek Public Schools  
Behnke Trucking, Inc  
Comcast Cable Communications, LLC  
WMU-College of Aviation

### 10 Year Anniversary

Flagstar Bank F.S.B.  
MIPays  
Mike's Team Active Bikes  
Paychex  
Sir Pizza BC, LCC  
The Arbors of Battle Creek  
The Arc of Calhoun County  
Troxel Realty Company, LLC

### 5 Year Anniversary

Alternative Resources  
Family & Children Services  
Mr. Don's Restaurant  
TownePlace Suites

## WHAT'S UP WEDNESDAY'S

*We are Poppin' Back In to See You*

The Chamber is excited to share with you that we will be poppin' back in through our What's Up Wednesdays program. Over the past year, we have invited our renewing members to "pop" into a virtual meeting with staff and ambassadors to learn a bit more about each of our members and have a casual conversation about how the Chamber can assist them within the year to come. Now that Michigan is reopening, our ambassadors are looking forward to poppin' by your office prior to renewing your membership to simply check-in. This is a great opportunity to get to know our ambassadors and ask any Chamber related questions that you may have. They are happy to connect you with a staff member to make sure that your membership is all set for the year to come. Plus, are you a fan of buttery popcorn? If so, make sure that you are around when we are poppin' by!

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### John Banks

Chair, Motor Shop Electrical  
Construction Co.

### Joey Vernon

Vice Chair, CTS

### Jeremy Wilson

Treasurer,  
DENSO Manufacturing

### Dr. Emily Bandeen

Secretary, Bandeen Orthodontics

### Jim Lance

Legal Counsel, Kreis, Enderle,  
Hudgins & Borsos P.C.

### Denise Jones

Immediate Past Chair,  
Graphix 2 Go

### Debi Southworth

OMNI Community Credit Union

### Bud Dunn

Atlas Sales, Inc.

### Leah Ortiz

The Arc of Calhoun County

### Michael Miller

Culver's Battle Creek

### Elishae S. Johnson,

PhD, LPC, CAADA

HelpNet Bronson

Healthcare Group

### John Gayda

Ernst & Young

### Shawn Holtz

110th Wing Commander

### Steve Frisbie

Lifecare Ambulance

Calhoun County

Commissioner, Chair

## BATTLE CREEK AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE STAFF

**Kara E. Beer** – President

**Billy Beers** – Director of Marketing & Communications

**Jennifer Blank** – Director of Finance

**Beth Pung** – Operation Specialist

### Chamber Refund & Cancellation Policy

Please visit [battlecreek.org](http://battlecreek.org) for our complete policy details. Editorial Policy: Articles written by outside authors do not necessarily reflect the views or positions of the Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce. The position of the Chamber will be clearly stated where applicable. The Chamber reserves the right to reject advertising based on content and does not accept advertising that conflicts with the mission or position of the Chamber. The advertising of products or services in the Insight does not necessarily represent endorsement by the Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce. The Insight is published quarterly by the Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce.

Editor: Kara Beer, President



## ALLOW YOUR VOICE TO BE HEARD

### *Why Join the Membership & Events Committee*

What is stopping you, or one of your employees, from joining the Chamber's Membership & Events Committee? Is it the fear of sales and retention? Most times, our fears, and the feeling of being uncomfortable, instantly sets us back from what the reality and truth may be. For instance, joining the Chamber's Membership & Events Committee is not about hardcore sales and retention plans. It is an opportunity for you to allow your experience and voice to be heard about membership, retention, and even events. It is an opportunity for idea sharing and collaboration that will not only strengthen you and your businesses membership with the Chamber but consider the impact it will have on other businesses and professionals as well. And, it is all because you stepped out of your comfort zone and took a seat at the table. You rock!

The Chamber's Membership & Events Committee is led by Operation Specialist Beth Pung. As the Staff Liaison, Beth focuses on the Statement of Purpose for the committee which is:

*The Membership Committee welcomes new members and works to enhance membership retention. Responsibilities of committee members include attending new member ribbon cuttings, groundbreaking, etc. as well as greeting new members virtually and in-person events.*

Beth keeps the Committee focused and task driven while having fun at the same time. This Committee is one to consider if you are looking to build your network, skills, and expertise. So now we must ask, will you consider joining the Membership & Events Committee that meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at 11 a.m.? Email Beth Pung at [bpung@battlecreek.org](mailto:bpung@battlecreek.org) to learn more about how this Committee is looking for you!



## *Spectacular Ambassador*

*Gina Anderson - OMNI Community Credit Union*

we have two children. I graduated from Lakeview High School in 2000. My two children are now attending Lakeview Middle School and Elementary. I first connected with the Battle Creek Chamber of Commerce in 2018 when my employer, OMNI Community Credit Union offered to send me to the 2018/2019 Leadership of Battle Creek Program. The Leadership of Battle Creek class was an amazing way to connect with our community! I loved visiting local businesses, networking and learning how the Chamber Rockstars help make us

who we are. Kara Beer connected us with many of the community leaders, and gave us a firsthand look at the important role the Chamber plays in supporting our community. I quickly learned how crucial the Ambassador role is to our community, helping drive growth, and continue to flourish in an ever-changing environment. I knew right away I wanted to be a part of the partnership our Chamber provides to our community. My passion is helping people, whether it's answering a simple question, giving support, or helping with financial needs, the ability to make a positive change in someone's life is why I wake up every day! I've enjoyed talking with our business owners, learning about all the upcoming additions coming to our community and all the programs and opportunities our area has to offer. I'm excited to continue working with the Chamber to bring the BEST to our residents, visitors and businesses.



## 6TH ANNUAL BACKYARD BURGERS & BREWSFEST

Saturday, August 28 in downtown Battle Creek

Backyard Burgers and Brewsfest is excited to announce that we will be taking down the fences and opening up the downtown to our festival goers and expanding throughout the newly created social district. This allows for more businesses to participate, more live music, more room to spread out and more food trucks and even more backyard games and picnic tables.

Battle Creek's finest burger emporiums and restaurants fire up their grills, food trucks will line the streets at 6 p.m. until 11 p.m. We will have headliner bands at Festival Market Square in Downtown Battle Creek and peppered around downtown. Taste some of the best burgers and food trucks in and around Battle Creek, then vote for your favorite!

Bring chairs, healthy appetites and come thirsty! We have plenty of food and fun for all.



## FALL INTO THE ARTS

Friday, October 15 in downtown Battle Creek



Fall into the Arts is an annual, evening event that features live music, food trucks, restaurants, art displays, performances, and various activities for artists and art lovers alike! It is also an opportunity for artists to sell work, gain exposure and interact with the community and other artists.

This year's Fall into the Arts will be held on October 15, 2021, on the Riverwalk trail in downtown Battle Creek. The downtown parking lot and street parking are available for attendees for free after 5 p.m. Visit the Fall into the Arts Facebook event page on Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce page for updates and information.

For more information, visit [battlecreek.org](http://battlecreek.org) or call 269.962.4076.



## HOW MICHIGAN BUSINESSES CAN RESPOND TO THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC

Sharing Solutions Michigan

On July 20 from 3 to 4 p.m. EDT, the U.S. Chamber Foundation, along with the Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce is hosting a series of conversations about best practices for employers to address substance misuse in the workplace.



National experts and members of local communities will discuss creating drug-free workplaces, building effective employee assistance programs, working with benefits providers, new complicating factors resulting from COVID-19, and how businesses can respond to these new challenges.

The more local business leaders, community leaders, employees, and community members we can get to attend, the more people in Michigan will have the tools needed to address this growing and terrible crisis. We appreciate your help spreading the word to your community.

The link to register is: <https://events.uschamberfoundation.org/sharingsolutionsmi>



# Ribbon Cuttings

## JUNE 24, 2021 – BC CARGO MARKETPLACE

Chamber Staff and Ambassadors celebrated the launch of seven entrepreneurs in downtown Battle Creek at BC Cargo Marketplace with Ribbon. BC Cargo Marketplace has a variety of new entrepreneurs offering sweets, home décor, books, unique gifts and MORE! The Marketplace is located at 35 W. Hamblin Ave., Battle Creek, Michigan (corner of Hamblin and McCamly). Visit the Chamber's Facebook page to watch the LIVE Ribbon Cutting video. **35 W. Hamblin Ave., Battle Creek, Michigan**



## APRIL 30, 2021 – BINDER PARK ZOO

Chamber Staff and Ambassadors celebrated the Grand Opening of the Dr. Edward & Dr. Pamela-Buitendorp-Drew Wolf Den with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. Donors to the exhibit were honored for their contribution to the exhibit and special guests in attendance learned about the new exhibit that anchors North America at Binder Park Zoo from Diane Thompson, president & CEO and zoo staff. Visit the Chamber's Facebook page to watch the LIVE Ribbon Cutting video. **7400 Division Drive, Battle Creek, Michigan**

## MAY 22, 2021 – LAKEVIEW/URBANDALE KIWANIS CLUB

Chamber Staff and Ambassadors celebrated recent updates to Lakeview/Urbandale Kiwanis Club's Outdoor Center with Ribbon. During the celebration, attendees enjoyed live music from Bobby Holley along with grilled hot dogs. The community was welcomed to attend and visit/use the 65+ acres. Visit the Chamber's Facebook page to watch the LIVE Ribbon Cutting video. **3499 Minges Road S., Battle Creek, Michigan**



## MAY 17, 2021 – SOUTHWESTERN MICHIGAN URBAN LEAGUE

Chamber Staff and Ambassadors celebrated Southwestern Michigan Urban League's 55 years of establishment with Ribbon. Southwestern Michigan Urban League invited the community to stop by and celebrate between 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Visit the Chamber's Facebook page to watch the LIVE Ribbon Cutting video. **172 W. Van Buren Street, Battle Creek, Michigan**





## BC CARGO MARKETPLACE - ENTREPRENEURIAL MEMBER BUSINESS SPOTLIGHTS

35 W. Hamblin Avenue, Battle Creek, Michigan (corner of Hamblin & McCamly)

**Aspidistra Naturals** is a family run soap company created in 2016 out of the need for high quality natural soap and body products. All of the products we sell are vegan, palm free, and free of any and all artificial, synthetic or harmful ingredients. All of our scents come from essential oils and we use plants or clay to color our products.



We currently offer soap, shampoo bars, and soap accessories. We are expanding to offer different body butters, oils, body scrubs, and bath salts by the end of the summer. We can create custom soap boxes and baskets perfect for gift giving. We are currently selling our products at BC Cargo and on our website [aspidistranaturals.com](http://aspidistranaturals.com), we are able to ship anywhere in the US.



**New Story Community Books** is Calhoun County's Independent Bookstore. We are a women owned, family run, local, social enterprise. We define Social Enterprise as prioritizing social goals alongside financial returns. For us this means we reinvest the majority of the money we make back into our community. Which means we seek to actively address literacy concerns in our community as part of our bottom line. Our vision is of a community where every person is introduced to the particularly fun magic books can breathe into one's life and a community where every child grows up in a home rich with books. We are constantly seeking new and innovative ways to connect people with books and help them discover new stories. So, we have chosen to launch our Battle Creek Space at BC Cargo because of the unique nature of the open-air style market and our ability to change the shop to new and fun themes to keep it fresh and interesting. We hope this leads to fantastic new spaces for people in our community to encounter new stories.

A native of Battle Creek, Keishana Taylor is the owner of Keishanas Kreations LLC doing business as Creating with KK. **Creating with KK** collaborates with customers to create personalized and unique products such as T-shirts, pillows and jewelry just to name a few. Keishana was always the one called on by family and friends to



use her creative mind to create clothing and decor for parties and special events. In 2019 when faced with the dilemma of trying to find the perfect gift for her grandmother's 75th birthday, she noticed that Battle Creek didn't have many places where you could purchase customized gifts. This led her to create even more personalized gifts for her family/friends and from that Keishanas Kreations was born. After losing her Mom in June 2020 and completing the Morning Light cohort Program, Keishana expanded her business by offering a wide variety of customized product options, changing her business name to reflect the shift in her business and designing a website so that customers around the United States could shop easily. This summer, Creating with KK will be down at BC Cargo so you can stop in and create your masterpiece in person.

Hello there Battle Creek! My name is Boonikka Herring and I am the owner and Lead Cakestress at **Cakes By Boo**. I am so excited to be a part of BC Cargo this season. I have been making cakes since 2013 and it is one of my favorite things to do. I am currently teaching Cake Decorating and Baking at Kellogg Community College for the Lifelong Department for the past few years. I also currently serve as your Ward 3 Commissioner of beautiful Battle Creek. I am excited to see all of the new businesses emerge in our city and I look forward to seeing you at BC Cargo this season.



My name is Coweta Smith. I am the owner of **Sweet Addicts LLC**, a home bakery specializing in custom made cakes, cupcakes, and a variety of treats (cookies, chocolate dipped items, and pies). Sweet Addicts was born from my love of baking and desire to have custom designed, tasty and affordable treats for parties and celebrations. Born and raised in Battle Creek, there is nowhere else I would want to operate a business. Some of my fondest childhood memories are of the times my sister and I spent in the kitchen with our grandmother and mother. Many of my recipes are versions of the sweets I grew up making. Once I had children, I could not find treats to accent their parties in the way I envisioned leading me to create and decorate my own cakes and treats. After completing the Morning Light Cohort Program, Sweet Addicts LLC became a licensed and thriving business. Orders continue to pour in, new recipes are in the making, and to put the “icing on the cake” Sweet Addicts will have a cargo space in Downtown Battle Creek beginning June 2021.

Behind every name, there’s a story. My name is Marcella Moreno, and I am the proud owner of **Margarita 1014**. I have been a resident of Battle Creek for the last 14 years but was born and raised in the Little Village community of Chicago. Margarita 1014 started about 15 years ago when I was home with my girls making jewelry. What began as a hobby of crafting jewelry then became selling my pieces, with the hope of one day having a shop of my own. For many years I put that dream aside to be a full-time mother. Now I have the opportunity to start up my shop. A majority of the items I sell are from Mexico. They are handmade blouses, jewelry, and home decor items. My hope is through these items, I can share the beautiful stories of our culture to others.

## Theirlooms

Upcycled Goods

**Theirlooms** is a social enterprise program of The Arc of Calhoun County, a 501c3 nonprofit organization that has been in Battle Creek for over 67 years. Items for sale range from small furniture items, such as side tables and chairs, to large items such as dressers and buffets; and unique furniture and décor that has been reimagined for a new purpose or presentation. Theirlooms will also contract with other creative community members to sell their items on consignment. The Arc strives to enhance employment options for individuals with disabilities and create skill-building opportunities. Customers will find value in Theirlooms as a social enterprise as it has furniture with a past and a purpose.



When it comes to the health of Michigan, we're *here* for it all.



For over 81 years, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan has provided communities across Michigan the support they need to lead healthy lives. From free resources that make it easier to make good diet and exercise decisions to programs that address health and health care disparities impacting vulnerable populations, we're here for the health and wellness of everyone in Michigan.

**Learn more at [HereForAll.com](https://www.hereforall.com).**

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network are nonprofit corporations and independent licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

W004325



# C L E V E R

## THE CLEVER RX STORY

### Chapter One of Five

Clever RX was built to empower and engage healthcare professionals in driving down prescription drug costs, increasing patient prescription compliance, reducing claims, and improving the overall health for patients and employees. The healthcare industry has done a poor job communicating with healthcare providers that prescription drug prices can vary greatly from brand to brand and pharmacy to pharmacy. The truth is, no longer are traditional health plans always the best way to pay for prescriptions. Every healthcare trend points to higher drug prices and greater financial burden being placed on patients through higher copays and higher deductibles. Patients are being asked to pay more out of pocket than ever before. This perfect storm is why we created Clever RX. At Clever RX we provide healthcare agents and providers the tools to help their patients and employees find the best price and location for their prescriptions.

### Chapter One | The Need

Over 250 million Americans could benefit from Clever RX due to an increasing number of high deductible health plans (HDHP), rising copays, and the underinsured or uninsured populations. More concretely, approximately 140 million Americans have high deductible health plans and over 100 million are underinsured or uninsured by almost 400%. This consumerism of healthcare, in which more of the burden of healthcare is now being transferred onto the consumers, is the way of the future. With nearly 5 billion scripts filled by the end of 2019, there is an incredibly high demand for ways to save on prescription medications.

Learn MORE about Clever RX

Catch **Chapter Two | A Brief History** within the July 20, 2021 Tuesday's Tidbits eNewsletter. Stay in-the-know by signing up to receive Tuesday's Tidbits at [battlecreek.org](http://battlecreek.org) (bottom of the homepage).

Visit <https://battlecreek.org/membership-benefits/> and click on CLEVER RX to learn more about how you can save on your prescriptions. Did we mention that you can save on your pet's prescriptions too?!

## WHO IS OFFERING YOU DISCOUNTS?

### Member 2 Member Discounts

30 Chamber members. There are 30 Chamber members that offer exclusive discounts to other Chamber members with our Member 2 Member discount program. These members are reaching out through their membership to promote how they can assist your businesses bottom line along with your employees. In 2021, it is more important than ever to be promoting, connecting and shopping with members to help them not only succeed past COVID-19 but to help them continue to thrive!

When is the last time you reviewed the discounts that are available to you? Have you shared these discounts with your employees? Discounts range from:

- Insurance
- Dining
- Medical
- Financial
- Office Equipment
- Travel
- Entertainment
- Marketing | Advertising
- Professional Development
- Retail | Gifts
- Pets
- Legal
- and MORE

We encourage you to visit [battlecreek.org](http://battlecreek.org) (Center of Excellence – Member 2 Member) next time you or your employees are within a buying decision. Let us come together in 2021 to find more ways in which members can support, connect and shop together.

Not currently offering a Member2Member discount? Simply visit our website, fill out the form, or contact Director of Marketing & Communications Billy Beers for more information.

Visit [battlecreek.org](http://battlecreek.org) to fill out a Member 2 Member discount program application today!





## CHAMBER GIFT CERTIFICATES

Supporting over 40 Members

In June, the Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce launched another round of Chamber Gift Certificates through the support of the 2021 Chamber Champions. Chamber Gift Certificates can be used at over 40 participating Chamber member locations from June thru December of 2021. “Seeing the greater Battle Creek area community working together to help our business community thrive is simply amazing,” said Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce President Kara Beer. “The Chamber’s GCP was designed to stimulate the local economy when businesses need it the most. By the generosity of our Chamber Champion sponsors we are able to double the impact of every dollar spent.” Chamber Gift Certificates were available in \$25 increments and were a dollar-for-dollar match. Community members were able to purchase up to \$250.00 worth of Gift Certificates while receiving \$500.00 in Gift Certificates.

## 2020 – 2021 Chamber Champions

### PLATINUM



### GOLD

*Motor Shop Electrical Construction Co.*

### SILVER

*Kellogg’s*

*OMNI Community Credit Union*

### BRONZE

*Bronson*

*CTS*

*Worgess Insurance Agency*

### FRIENDS

*BlueOx Credit Union*

*CTI Mechanical*

*Pennfield Animal Hospital*

*Rosler Metal Finishing*

The following BCACC members are participating:

- Aspidistra Naturals, Inc. – BC Cargo Unit
- B2 Outlet Store
- Barista Blue’s Café
- Battle Creek Family Chiropractic
- Battle Creek Welcome Center
- BC Sound & Stage
- Burtrum Furs & Leather
- Café Rica
- Cakes By Boo – BC Cargo Unit
- Cavoni’s Pizza and Grinders
- Cedar Creek Golf Course
- Charitable Union Gift Shop
- CottonTales Toys & Games
- Creating with KK – BC Cargo Unit
- Ermisch Travel
- Fat Mike’s Barbeque
- Handmap Brewing
- King Jewelers
- Kitchen Proper
- LynnIvan Salon
- Margarita 1014 Boutique – BC Cargo Unit
- Mike’s Team Active
- Miles for Memories
- Mr. Don’s Restaurant
- New Story Community Books – BC Cargo Unit
- Once Upon a Child
- paper & i
- Pastrami Joe’s Deli
- Plumeria Boutique
- Pro DJs
- Recognition, Inc.
- Riverside Golf Course
- Rock Solid Wellness Studio
- Salon K/Out on a Whim
- Scene Publications/WW Thyne Advertising
- Schlotzsky’s
- Simply Sensational Berries
- Sir Pizza
- Squirrel Hollow Golf Course
- Sweet Addicts – BC Cargo Unit
- Theirlooms – BC Cargo Unit
- Torti Taco
- WACO Kitchen

Thank you to the 2021 Chamber Champions for helping to stimulate our local economy through the Chamber Gift Certificate program.



## PARTNER PROGRAM BENEFITS

Michigan Chamber of Commerce

Through our long-standing partnership with the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, we are able to provide members of the Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce with additional membership benefits at discounted prices through the Partner Program Benefits. The following will review each of the benefits available to BCACC members:

- Certify Michigan
- Michigan & Federal Labor Law Posters
- Utility Bill Review
- Identity Theft Protection
- Training & Education
- Unemployment Insurance Assistance

Taking advantage of these Partner Program Benefits is as easy as visiting the Michigan Chamber of Commerce's Business Solutions page on their website ([michamber.com](http://michamber.com)). When making a purchase, use the **Chamber Code of BCCC** and mention that you were referred by the Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce, a valued Michigan Chamber partner.



### CERTIFY MICHIGAN

The Michigan Chamber of Commerce provides *Certificate of Origin (COO)* services through an online portal that is secure, simple and fast. You can trust the Michigan Chamber to serve your export documentation needs.



#### ELECTRONIC WITH CUSTOMER SUPPORT

No travel or mail; electronic notifications and receipts; easily copy, edit and resubmit previous applications and rejections online. Customer support available.



#### USER-FRIENDLY & FAST TURNAROUND

System takes you step-by-step for successful application. Certified by Chamber staff and returned quickly.



#### TRUSTWORTHY & USE AS NEEDED

Ensures export compliance, processed by qualified Chamber staff and system identifies errors in advance. Simply pay as you use, no upfront fees.

[WWW.MICHAMBER.COM/BUSINESS\\_SOLUTIONS](http://WWW.MICHAMBER.COM/BUSINESS_SOLUTIONS)

Contact Matt Maher at 517-803-9036



### IDENTITY THEFT PROTECTION

**Identity theft is a serious problem** for employers and employees that can result in huge financial losses, lost productivity at work and extreme personal stress. As a result, identity theft protection services have become a highly valued employee benefit.

The Michigan Chamber of Commerce has partnered with **IdentityForce**, to deliver the highest-quality and most cost-effective solution for employers.



#### ID Theft Protection

Top-rated ID theft protection and protection of your employees' personal information.



#### 24/7 Monitoring

Provide you with 24/7 monitoring, alerts and restoration services.



#### Employee Benefit

Highly-valued employee benefit and deeply discounted member pricing.

[WWW.MICHAMBER.COM/BUSINESS\\_SOLUTIONS](http://WWW.MICHAMBER.COM/BUSINESS_SOLUTIONS)

Contact Matt Maher at 517-803-9036





## STRENGTHEN

### EMPLOYMENT LAW POSTERS & BOOKS



#### Michigan & Federal Labor Law Posters

A consolidation of all the mandatory state and federal notices in their required sizes on one 27" x 39" printed and laminated sheet.



#### Employment Law Handbook Set

This set of 3 employment law handbooks for Michigan employers is your #1 defense against costly lawsuits.



#### Guide for Employee Handbook Policies

Explanation and guidelines for specific policies and sample policy language that can be used to create a company-specific employee handbook, personnel policy book or manual.



#### Manage Employee Electronic Use Guide

Tools to protect your data: rights to monitor employee use of electronic devices, how to conduct computer forensics and employee investigations and more.



#### Unemployment Insurance Guide

Understand Michigan's complicated unemployment insurance system and minimize your costs and exposure.

[WWW.MICHAMBER.COM/BUSINESS\\_SOLUTIONS](http://WWW.MICHAMBER.COM/BUSINESS_SOLUTIONS)  
Contact Matt Maher at 517-803-9036



## STRENGTHEN

### UTILITY & TELECOM BILL REVIEW

The Michigan Chamber can connect our members with a program to help you manage and significantly reduce your utility and telecommunication costs. Through analyzing your current utility bill applying the rules, regulations and tariffs of your utility providers to find savings and refunds. If their audit does not uncover the opportunity for savings, refunds or credits you owe them nothing.



#### Discovery

The Letter of Authorization is used to gather account information, review your billing history and evaluate usage information.



#### Analysis

Our team further evaluates your billing data, verifies the charges and investigates each line item on your invoices.



#### Report

Once the analysis is complete, you are provided with a detailed report highlighting the savings and refund opportunities.



#### Savings

Savings and refunds are in your hands - you are given a portfolio of options, implementation is at your discretion.

[WWW.MICHAMBER.COM/BUSINESS\\_SOLUTIONS](http://WWW.MICHAMBER.COM/BUSINESS_SOLUTIONS)  
Contact David Brownback at 517-371-7689



## CONNECT

### TRAINING & EDUCATION

When changes occur that impact the workplace, you can count on the Michigan Chamber to provide education and training opportunities so you and your employees are up to date. The Michigan Chamber has pivoted to take all of the resources you expect and bring them to you virtually, so you can participate from the comfort and safety of your own home! And if you miss a live event you can catch it On-Demand when it's convenient for you!



#### TRAINING

These online training courses in career training, computer programs, accounting principles and other business topics allow employers to work at their own pace, anytime, anywhere.



#### WEBINARS

Providing you a focused look on issues that affect you and your business. From the latest on COVID-19, Unemployment and more, we've got you covered. We bring you the latest information so you can immediately apply that knowledge in your workplace.

[WWW.MICHAMBER.COM/BUSINESS\\_SOLUTIONS](http://WWW.MICHAMBER.COM/BUSINESS_SOLUTIONS)  
Contact Matt Maher at 517-803-9036



## STRENGTHEN

### UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ASSISTANCE

Working through Michigan's unemployment insurance system is not an easy task for employers and trying to get answers to your questions is often an exhausting process.

The Michigan Chamber of Commerce can assist you with this complicated process and help you to reduce and control your unemployment costs, through a three-tiered approach.

1

#### Advisory Hotline

Complimentary access to unemployment specialists for critical questions.

2

#### Procedural Consulting

Assistance with employment policies, procedures and practices related to unemployment claims.

3

#### Benefits Administration

Management of your entire unemployment insurance process.

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Contact Matt Maher at 517-803-9036

