



Downingtown-Thorndale Regional Chamber of Commerce Hurricane Ida Business Relief Fund Established

DOWNINGTOWN - The Downingtown-Thorndale Regional Chamber of Commerce (DTRCC) announces the establishment of its *Hurricane Ida Business Relief Fund* to assist businesses devastated by flooding related to the storm.

Donations are being accepted and can be made online at the Chamber website www.dtrcc.com or by check, and mailing to the Downingtown-Thorndale Regional Chamber of Commerce, 216 E. Lancaster Avenue, Downingtown, PA 19335. *Checks payable to "DTRCC" and note in the memo line "Business Relief Fund"*.

DTRCC is kicking off the fund drive by donating \$5,000 to the relief fund from the proceeds our upcoming Downingtown FallFest. Businesses in the Chamber service area, both members and non-members, who received flood damage from Hurricane Ida are eligible to apply for relief funding. Applications are available at www.dtrcc.com.

Hurricane Ida Business Relief Fund disbursements will be supplemental to any FEMA funding that impacted businesses may receive.

"On behalf of our Board of Directors, we are proud to step-up and help our businesses who are recovering from the devastation caused by Hurricane Ida", said Patti McComsey, President of DTRCC.

In addition, DTRCC has met with the Chester County Economic Development Council to explore avenues to provide "bridge financing" for businesses needing capital before FEMA and other assistance is received.

"We commend the Downingtown-Thorndale Chamber for responding so quickly to the devastation caused by Hurricane Ida and pledge to help however we can. We know so many businesses are desperate for assistance and this relief fund is a terrific first step. We look forward to further conversations with the Chamber to identify or create additional assistance programs." Said Gary Smith, President and CEO of CCEDC.

Questions regarding donations or applications, contact Chamber Executive Director Steve Plaugher at 610-269-1523 or splaugher@dtrcc.com.