

## Volunteer Testimonials

"I love the people! I have met some fantastic, smart people in my volunteer positions with the Chamber. It has been rewarding for me personally and professionally." - **Kara Tomazin, CentraCare Health, Marketing chair**

"I've been lucky enough to participate on several committees with the Chamber. Volunteering has allowed me develop myself as well as many relationships and friendships within the community."  
- **Jeff Udy, Infinite Eye Care Chamber Connection vice chair**

"Volunteering offers an opportunity to meet new people and contribute to the growth of the Chamber."  
- **Tanja Goering, Pro Staff, Government Affairs chair**

"I love the positive energy that exists at all Chamber events. Participating in the Chamber has made it fun and easy to meet area leaders, build my business and make new friends."  
- **Mary Swingle, Rasmussen, Business Development Council member**

## Why Volunteer?

The success of the St. Cloud Area Chamber and its work in the community depends on a strong, active volunteer force. As a member of the Chamber you and others on your staff are welcome to actively participate in the meetings and projects of our volunteer committees.

The Chamber's volunteer program strives to create an environment that is friendly and welcoming. As a Chamber volunteer, you work closely with the Chamber staff who are an active part of each committee. They are there to assist you and to answer questions about how the Chamber operates and to help you be the most effective volunteer possible.

### Matching

After completing and returning the volunteer application, a member of the Chamber staff will call and talk with you about your interest areas and time commitment. They will help you find the best fit. Once you choose a committee you will be added to the committee roster and begin receiving meeting notices.

### Length

Most volunteer commitments are ongoing and leadership positions are held for 1-2 years. Most committees meet monthly for 1-1.5 hours. In addition, committees often require tasks to be completed outside of the meetings on the volunteer's own time.

For more information on our various committees or to see how we recognize our volunteers go to *Membership* on our homepage and choose *Volunteer* from the menu.

# A guide to volunteering with the St. Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce



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Website: [StCloudAreaChamber.com](http://StCloudAreaChamber.com)

**StCloudAreaChamber.com**

# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

## ***B.I.G. (Big Idea Group)***

The Chamber's B.I.G. committee supports and enhances Chamber activities through promoting engagement with fresh and relevant event and program ideas. This new committee is currently planning a shooting event and a bus tour while also helping the Chamber re-think events like Chamber 4U, New Member Welcome, and Business After Hours EXTRA!

## ***Business Development Council (BDC)***

Provides education and training opportunities to Chamber members in order to assist in their success and growth. Volunteers that like to keep busy planning, promoting, coordinating, and educating are just right for this committee. Programs include: Lunchtime Learning, Customer Service Training, and the Supervisor Development Certificate Program.

## ***Central Minnesota Farm Show Committee***

The Central Minnesota Farm Show runs for three days at the River's Edge Convention Center and boasts over 300 booths and 200 exhibitors. Volunteers secure exhibitors, plan publicity, make booth assignments and help with set up and tear down and registration all three days of the show. If you want to be a part of the Chamber's largest fundraiser and you like all the details of event planning, you will fit right in.

## ***NEXT—Chamber's Emerging Leaders***

Participants of the NEXT—Chamber's Emerging Leaders program are encouraged to be an integral part of planning this next generation professional development program. Volunteers can participate in organizing speakers, events and promotions. NEXT meetings are the second Tuesday of the month over lunch.

## ***Chamber Connection Location Committee***

Chamber Connection is a high-energy networking group that gives Chamber members an opportunity to exchange business information, ideas, products and services. Location Committee volunteers meet monthly and are responsible for planning and scheduling Chamber Connection meetings, including but not limited to securing sponsors and locations. Applications are accepted year-round.

## ***Chamber Open Committee***

The Chamber's annual golf outing features one shotgun start, prizes, food, and great networking. Volunteers solicit sponsors, collect door prizes, and help the day of the Open which is always the second Monday in August.

## ***Diversity Council***

The purpose of the Diversity Council of the St. Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce is to support an inclusive business community by encouraging all Chamber members to advocate, enhance and promote equity of opportunity in all of their business practices.

## ***Government Affairs Committee***

Volunteers serve as a link between local and state governments and the business community. Members carry the Chamber's policy positions to the legislature. Projects include candidate and legislative forums and planning monthly meetings and annual events. Government Affairs meetings are the second Friday of the month at 7:30 a.m. at the Chamber office.

## ***Marketing Committee***

Volunteers with a background in marketing, sales or promotion assist the Chamber staff in creating new membership programs and reviewing and promoting current activities.

## ***St. Cloud Area Leadership Program Committee***

Graduates of the St. Cloud Area Leadership Program are encouraged to be an integral part of planning this nine-month community leadership program. Volunteers can participate in interviewing and selecting candidates or day planning and coordinating.

## ***Star Celebration Committee***

The Chamber's annual volunteer recognition event honors those who have volunteered for the Chamber throughout the year (this could be you!) Volunteers assist with planning, promotion, decorations, sponsorships and ticket sales.

## ***VIP (Value, Information, Promotion) Membership Retention Committee***

Assists with the Chamber's membership retention efforts. Volunteers call members to share Chamber news and information about upcoming events. Volunteers with an interest in being a key player in the Chamber's retention efforts should apply! Meets the third Tuesday of the month from 10:30-11:30 a.m. at the Chamber. Volunteers provide their own cell phones.

## ***Sauk Rapids Chamber***

Promotes Sauk Rapids through projects and special events. May be of particular interest to those who live or work in Sauk Rapids. The Sauk Rapids Chamber meets the fourth Thursday of the month at 11:45 a.m. Location varies.

## ***Waite Park Chamber***

Promotes Waite Park through projects and special events. May be of particular interest to those who live or work in Waite Park. The Waite Park chamber meets the third Wednesday of the month at 11:30 a.m. Location varies.

St. Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce

YES! I'd like to volunteer at the St. Cloud Area Chamber

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill out the information below. Return to the Chamber by fax at 320-251-0081 or by mail to: St. Cloud Area Chamber, PO Box 487, St. Cloud, MN 56302-0487. For questions call us at 320-251-2940.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Company \_\_\_\_\_

Company Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle committees you are interested in:

- |                                       |                              |                     |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| B.I.G. Committee                      | Chamber Open                 | Star Celebration    |
| Business Development Council (BDC)    | Diversity Council            | V.I. P Committee    |
| Central Minnesota Farm Show           | Government Affairs Committee | Sauk Rapids Chamber |
| NEXT—Chamber's Emerging Leaders       | Marketing Committee          | Waite Park Chamber  |
| Chamber Connection Location Committee | St. Cloud Area Leadership    |                     |