



**TAMPA BAY  
CHAMBER**

---

**2020 ANNUAL REPORT**

**VISION**<sup>20</sup><sub>26</sub>



The Chamber's Annual Report showcases our joint successes and accolades as well as the continued opportunities provided to our members and our entire region each year. In the following pages you will see that 2020, albeit a difficult year, was also successful because of our focus on our strategic initiatives which drove our efforts for the year and they will continue to be driven by our **Vision 2026 plan**. In 2019, we formally changed our name to the Tampa Bay Chamber to ensure that our name reflects the work that we are doing to impact our entire region. In 2020 we were recognized by the Florida Association of Chamber of Commerce Professionals (FACP) as a Chamber of the Year in our category. We're proud of this accomplishment and we have our wonderful staff and leaders that make up the Tampa Bay Chamber to thank for that recognition.



It's been a quick four years since we introduced our 10-year vision plan, **Vision 2026**. This Vision Plan encompasses our guiding pillars; **Catalyst**, **Inclusive Organization**, and **Hub for Business** all of which are supported by the Chamber's Organizational Excellence.

- The Catalyst Pillar embodies our consistent and unmatched advocacy on behalf of the business community.
- The Inclusive Organization Pillar incorporates our innovative initiatives such as the Minority Business Accelerator and Operation Partnership which keep us at the forefront of growth and change in Tampa Bay.
- The Hub for Business Pillar encompasses our extensive programming efforts such as the Competitive Edge Series, Return on Relationships, and our multiple Leadership programs. These programs help us to continue building vital business and leadership development skills.
- The Organizational Excellence foundation strengthens our role model status for effective and efficient governance to ensure our members are proud to be a part of the Tampa Bay Chamber.

2020 was a difficult year for Tampa Bay, but the future is brighter. We are eager to continue promoting your business, Tampa Bay's brand and the Chamber's bold vision. To remain current on all that we offer please use our website, [www.TampaBayChamber.com](http://www.TampaBayChamber.com), as a resource for accurate and up-to-date information on all Chamber events, programs and policy positions. It is our pleasure to serve you as our valued member, and we appreciate your continued commitment to the Tampa Bay Chamber.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Rohrlack". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Bob Rohrlack, CCE  
President & CEO  
Tampa Bay Chamber



# Organizational Excellence



# Chamber of the Year

The Tampa Bay Chamber was recognized as 2020 Chamber of the Year by the Florida Association of Chamber Professionals (FACP).

The Chamber also earned the 2020 FACP Communications Award winner for the 2019 Annual Report.



## Vision 2026

### Our Mission

To serve our members and enhance our community by building business success.

### Our Vision

The Tampa Bay Chamber envisions an engaged and inclusive community driven by business prosperity.

### Our Values

Integrity, inclusiveness, agility, and accountability.



Learn More At: [www.TampaBayChamber.com/Vision2026](http://www.TampaBayChamber.com/Vision2026).

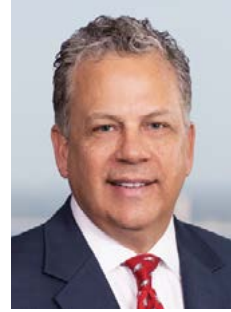
# Executive Committee



**Chair**  
**Maryann Ferenc**  
Mis en Place



**Chair-Elect**  
**Yvette Segura**  
USAA\*



**Treasurer**  
**Andy Mayts, Esq.**  
Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick, LLP\*



**Finance**  
**Gary Vien**  
Suncoast Credit Union\*



**Legal Counsel**  
**Marilyn Mullen Healy, Esq.**  
Akerman\*



**Secretary / President & CEO**  
**Dr. Bob Rohrlack, CCE**  
Tampa Bay Chamber

## At Large



**Brian Butler**  
Vistra Communications



**Kimberlee DeBosier**  
WGI



**Anddrikk Frazier**  
Integral Energy, LLC



**Steve Griggs**  
Tampa Bay Lightning\*



**Chris Minner**  
Tampa International  
Airport\*



**Christopher Rogers**  
Sykes Enterprises  
Incorporated\*



**Dr. Jeffrey Senese**  
Saint Leo University\*



**Bemetra Simmons**  
United Way Suncoast\*

# Board of Directors

**Brian Adcock;** Adcock Financial Group  
**Brian Auld;** Tampa Bay Rays\*  
**J.C. Ayers;** Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tampa\*  
**Clint Babcock;** Sandler Training\*  
**Chris Bailey;** Charter Communications\*  
**Lori Baggett;** Carlton Fields P.A.\*  
**Courtney Barnard;** Verizon\*  
**Debra Bauman;** Skanska USA \*  
**Kimberly Berfield;** Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital\*  
**Dave Bevirt;** Water Street Tampa\*  
**Matt Blair;** Corcoran Group\*  
**Steve Blanchard;** WFLA-TV\*  
**Michael Blasco;** Tampa Bay Food Trucks  
**Josh Bomstein;** Creative Contractors, Inc.  
**Jeff Bonick;** CLA\*  
**Stuart Brown;** Accenture\*  
**Ryan Campbell;** Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.\*  
**Karin Coleman;** HCI Group, Inc.\*  
**Chris Coy;** Fairwinds Credit Union\*  
**Laura Crouch;** TECO\*  
**Gwynn Davey;** ServisFirst Bank  
**Julius Davis;** VoltAir Consulting Engineers, Inc.  
**John DeLaVergne;** DeLaVergne & Company  
**Peter Diniaco;** Aetna\*  
**Padraig Drennan;** Stellar Partners, Inc.\*  
**Bruce Faulmann;** Tampa Bay Times\*  
**Rick Gallegos;** Dale Carnegie Training Tampa Bay\*  
**Beth Garland;** Ultimate Medical Academy\*  
**Scott Gault;** The Bank of Tampa\*  
**Colette Glover-Hannah;** Hannah's Shoebox  
**Bill Goede;** Bank of America\*  
**Kimberly Guy;** St. Joseph's Hospital\*  
**Leigh Harting;** 3 Daughters Brewing  
**Alison Hoefler;** Southwest Airlines  
**Greg Hoerbelt;** Regions Bank\*  
**Kevin Hourigan;** Bayshore Solutions  
**Derek Holmes;** Tec-Link, LLC

As of 12/31/2020

**Andrew Jenkins, Esq.;** Bush Ross\*  
**David Judd;** Wehr Constructors\*  
**Chris Karlo;** MercuryWorks  
**Lauren Key;** AdventHealth\*  
**Atul Khosla;** Tampa Bay Buccaneers\*  
**Anne Marie Lapczynski;** Bristol-Myers Squibb\*  
**Jennifer Lawson;** Vector Solutions  
**Rob Ledford;** Baker Barrios\*  
**Dr. Moez Limayem;** University of South Florida\*  
**Rita Lowman;** Pilot Bank  
**Tim Marks;** Metropolitan Ministries, Inc.  
**Drew Marshall;** CI Group\*  
**Edwin Narain;** AT&T  
**Kristian Negroni;** CIT\*  
**Larry Nourse;** Miller Electric\*  
**Greg Olivier;** Valley Bank\*  
**Doug Pace;** Stonehill Innovation  
**Penny Parks;** Links Financial, LLC  
**Tad Phelps;** Fintech\*  
**Mark Pitts;** Coca Cola Beverages Florida\*  
**Jim Porter, Esq.;** Akerman LLP  
**Royce Reed;** PNC Bank\*  
**Scott Riley;** Riley Family Education Foundation, Inc.\*  
**Cole Robinson;** Fish Window Cleaning  
**Bill Schifino, Esq.;** Gunster\*  
**Stephen Shear;** Hillsborough Community College\*  
**Ali St. Cyr;** Tomlin St Cyr Real Estate Services  
**Jennifer Suarez Jankes;** Citi\*  
**Dr. Courtney Sutherland;** Tampa General Hospital\*  
**Neil Thurman;** Busch Gardens\*  
**Ryan Toth;** The Beck Group\*  
**Christine Turner;** ChappellRoberts  
**Lauren Valiente, Esq.;** Foley & Lardner LLP  
**Joe Waggoner;** Tampa Hillsborough Expressway Authority\*  
**Lauren Weiner;** WWC, LLC  
**Jamie Wilson;** H. Lee Moffitt Cancer & Research Institute, Inc.\*  
**Randall Woods;** Florida Blue\*

\*PARTNER

## Ex-Officio Members

**Santiago Corrada;** Visit Tampa Bay  
**Addison Davis;** Hillsborough County Public Schools  
**Lindsey Kimball;** Hillsborough County Economic Development  
**Carole Post;** City of Tampa  
**Ann Kulig;** The Westshore Alliance  
**Lynda Remund;** Tampa Downtown Partnership  
**Craig Richard;** Tampa Bay Economic Development Council

## LEADERSHIP TAMPA CHAIR

**Jill Manthey;** Yacht StarShip

## LEADERSHIP TAMPA ALUMNI CHAIR

**Amanda Uliano;** Law Office of Amanda M. Uliano, P.A.

## EMERGING LEADERS OF TAMPA BAY CHAIR

**Eric Ortiz;** Magical Brands

## MILITARY ADVISOR

**Col. Stephen Snelson;** MacDill Air Force Base

## Past Chairs

2019 **Jamie Harden;** Creative Sign Designs  
 2018 **Steven Bernstein, Esq.;** Fisher Phillips  
 2017 **Mike Griffin;** Savills Studley Occupier Services  
 2016 **Guy King III;** M.E. Wilson Co., Inc.  
 2015 **Ronald A. Christaldi, Esq.;** Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick, LLP \*  
 2014 **Robin DeLaVergne;** Tampa General Hospital\*  
 2013 **Gregory Celestan;** Celestar Corporation  
 2012 **Chuck Black;** Black & Black Consulting Services, LLC  
 2010-11 **Chuck Sykes;** Sykes Enterprises Incorporated\*  
 2009 **Henry Gonzalez III;** Beach Community Bank  
 2008 **Judy Genshaft, Ph.D.;** University of South Florida\*  
 2007 **Fredrick H.L. McClure, Esq.;** DLA Piper US LLP  
 2006 **Jose Valiente;** CPA  
 2005 **C. Samuel Ellison;** EWI Construction, LLC  
 2004 **John Ramil**  
 2002 **A.D. Sandy MacKinnon;** ADM Ventures, Inc.  
 2001 **Bob Martinez;** Holland & Knight  
 1999 **Rhea Law, Esq.;** Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC  
 1998 **Richard Dobkin**  
 1993 **Gay Culverhouse**  
 1992 **James L. Ferman, Jr.;** Ferman Motor Car Company, Inc.  
 1990-91 **James W. Aphthor**  
 1989-90 **William Starkey**  
 1988-89 **Stella Thayer, Esq.;** MacFarlane, Ferguson & McMullen  
 1987-88 **James Urbanski**  
 1985-86 **Mandell Shimberg;** Shimberg-Cross Co.  
 1984-85 **G. Robert Blanchard**  
 1983-84 **T. Terrell Sessums**

# Partners



# Chamber Staff



**Bob Rohrlack, DBA, CCE**  
President & CEO



**Karen Arnold**  
Chief Operating Officer



**Breanna Augello**  
Events Manager



**D'Andrea Cary**  
Controller



**Michelle Ciudad Real**  
Senior Director, Leadership Programs



**Carleigh DeLuca**  
Marketing Manager



**Staci Fraser**  
Director, Investor Relations



**Meaghan Gelinski**  
Senior Director, Events



**Nicholas Glover**  
Vice President, Advocacy



**Katie Lopez**  
Director, Military and Workforce Development



**Shawn Paonessa**  
Director, Creative Services



**Patie Powers**  
Member Relations Specialist



**Avril Stinson**  
Director, Minority Business Accelerator & Economic Inclusion



**Jill Teeter**  
Director, Leadership Programs

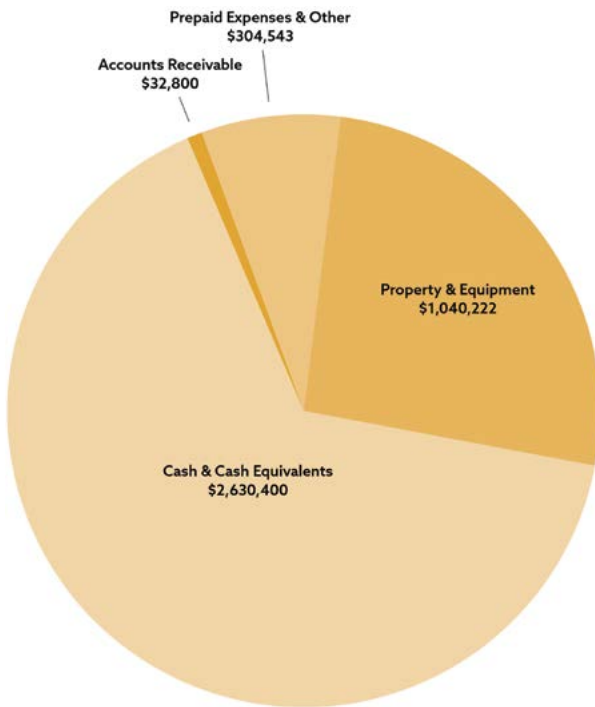


**Jacquelyn Vasvari-Toke**  
Senior Director, Strategic Communications and Marketing

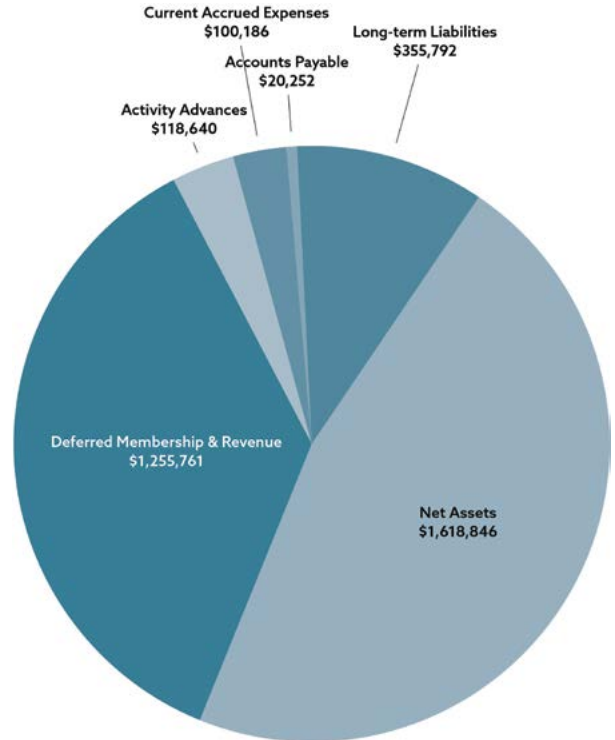


**Rosanne Versaggi**  
Director, Membership

# Finance

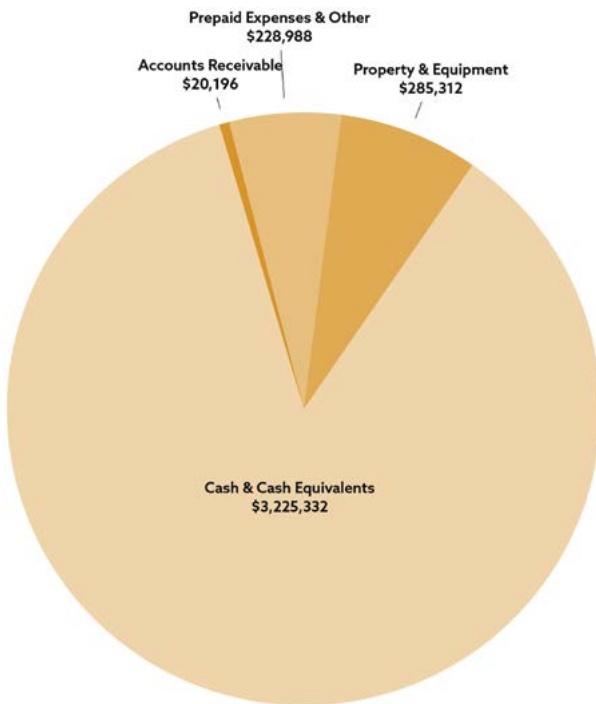


**2020 Total Assets\***

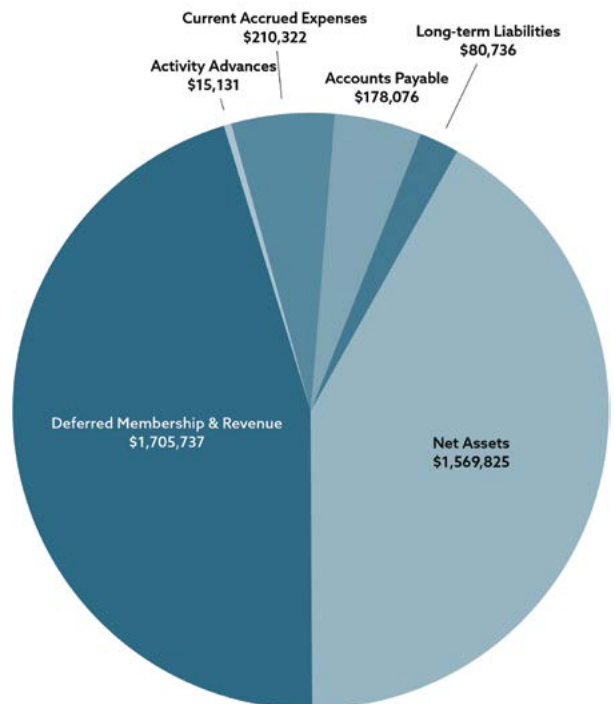


**2020 Total Liabilities & Net Assets\***

\*Pending 2020 Annual Audit



**2019 Total Assets**



**2019 Total Liabilities & Net Assets**

# Catalyst

## Accomplishments & Successes

- Introduced the 2020 Key Votes document to inform voters where candidates stand on key issues
- Hosted candidate interview videos featuring candidates running for office in Hillsborough, Pasco, and Pinellas Counties for members to review before voting
- Hosted public policy events to ensure members have a better understanding of how the Chamber advocates for our members
- Routinely hosted national and state leaders to ensure that the perspectives of our membership were heard and considered





# Legislative Events

## Legislative Kick-off

The Chamber hosted our annual Legislative Kickoff Reception. This year's reception boasted 13 confirmed legislators, from the Senate and House, representing all three of our legislative delegations: Hillsborough, Pasco, and Pinellas counties. The Kickoff was the largest to date with 237 attendees. This represents a 47% growth year over year.

## Legislative Wrap Up

The Chamber held a successful Legislative Wrap-Up broadcasted virtually to 145 registered attendees and featuring nine legislators, representing the Tampa Bay Delegation. The event produced 94% of the target goal for attendees and it outperformed net income goal. The legislative delegation shared reflections on the 2020 session, including analyzing Florida's response to the current pandemic, and a preview of 2021. Legislators included: Sen. Darryl Rouson (Dist. 19), Rep. James Grant (Dist. 64), Rep. Dianne Hart (Dist. 61), Rep. Adam Hattersley (Dist. 59), Rep. Lawrence McClure (Dist. 58), Rep. Wengay "Newt" Newton (Dist. 70), Rep. Jackie Toledo (Dist. 60), Rep. Susan Valdes (Dist. 62), Rep. Jennifer Webb (Dist. 69).

## Face the Chamber Breakfast Mayor Jane Castor

Hosted our annual Face the Chamber event featuring Mayor Jane Castor, which was broadcasted virtually to 500+ registered attendees. Mayor Castor spoke about the state of the city, the coronavirus pandemic, and a way forward for Tampa.

## Hob Nob

The Chamber held an innovative and virtual Hob Nob event that allowed an interactive element for attendees. The event saw 379 registered attendees, including 54 Candidates from Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas (Federal, State, and Local).

## COVID-19 Response & Recovery

Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Jimmy Patronis held a video conference with the Tampa Bay Chamber to give insight on issues including COVID-19 response and recovery, business liability protections, and the State of Florida's fiscal health and economy. This was a unique opportunity, given that CFO Patronis served on the Executive Committee of Governor Ron DeSantis's Re-Open Florida Task Force.

## Public Policy Roundtable

The Chamber held a successful Public Policy Roundtable titled, Building an Equity and Inclusion Culture. The event included almost 200 registrants, representing multiple industries and locations throughout Tampa Bay. The event was moderated by Ernest Hooper, Regional Communications Director for the American Cancer Society and featured the following panelists: Lori Y. Baggett, Carlton Fields, B. Lee Green, Moffitt Cancer Center, Dr. Michelle Madden, USF, Machel Maner, Wells Fargo, Angeles Valenciano, National Diversity Council, and Monica Verra-Tirado, Ed.D, Hillsborough County Public Schools.

# Local Advocacy

## County Successes

Policy Council Co-Chairs, Kim DeBosier and Andy Mayts, represented the positions of the Chamber to the Board of County Commissions on the topics of Workforce Housing and the increase of Hillsborough County Public Schools' impact fees. Both measures were successful.

The Advocacy team led the Chamber's position on Hillsborough County Public Schools' impact fees. The increase was unanimously approved by BOCC - yielding nearly \$30M more, annually. On behalf of our community partners, the Chamber authored letters of recommendation in support of:

- Second Chance Act Community-based Reentry Program
- Research and Evaluation of Promising Reentry Initiatives Grant

## BUILD Grants

The Chamber successfully advocated for nearly \$50M in the Department of Transportation's Better Utilizing Investment to Leverage Development (BUILD) grants, previously TIGER grants, for the City of Tampa and Hillsborough County.

The Chamber wrote a letter in support of the City of Tampa's BUILD Grant application for The Tampa Multimodal Network and Safety Improvements project. The \$24M City of Tampa BUILD grant will be used to complete approximately 12 miles of contiguous multi-modal path separated from vehicle traffic, with complete streets and traffic calming improvements. The project will connect downtown Tampa, the University of Tampa, West Tampa, Tampa Heights, Bayshore, Hyde Park and Ybor City with multi-modal paths, complete streets and under bridge/over water segments, site work, new pavement, guard rails, lighting, landscaping, and seawall repair.

Additionally, the \$25M Hillsborough County BUILD grant will be used to widen and reconstruct the existing interchange at Big Bend Road and I-75, including additional bicycle lanes and multi-use paths and a roundabout at the intersection of Old Big Bend Road and Bullfrog Creek Road. The Chamber had advocated for this project via our Legislative Agenda.

Hillsborough County and City of Tampa were the only award recipients in Florida to receive a competitive BUILD grant.

## Key Votes 2020

The Tampa Bay Chamber's Policy Council announced the inaugural release of our bill tracker, Key Votes 2020. The guide tracks legislators' votes on bills related to our Legislative Agenda's guiding principles: Workforce Development & Education, Workforce Housing, Transportation, Health Care, Business & Economic Development, and Military & Defense. Ultimately, Key Votes tracks whether our legislative delegation voted for or against the Chamber's legislative priorities.

## Candidate Interviews

The Advocacy team partnered with the Tampa Bay Times, Florida Politics, Bay News 9, and Policy Council volunteers to interview 52 candidates vying for 16 seats in Hillsborough, Pasco, and Pinellas counties. Interviews were extended to all candidates who qualified with the Supervisor of Elections in Hillsborough, Pasco, or Pinellas counties. Our candidate interview series covered jobs, home rule, transportation, equity, housing, economic development, the budget, healthcare, technology, and other critical issues for each of the specific races.

## Additional Successes

Chamber CEO, Bob Rohrlack, participated in the City of Tampa's Housing Forum, where he detailed the Chamber's commitment to workforce housing based on our data-driven approach.

The Chamber wrote a letter in support of the University of South Florida and the Freight Supply Chain and Resilience Study to improve the resilience of Hillsborough County's freight system.

The Chamber wrote Sen. Rubio a letter in support of direct and flexible COVID-19 fiscal assistance to our nation's cities and municipalities. The Chamber rallied all of our MOU partners to sign the letter as well.

The Chamber was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation from the Hillsborough Supervisor of Elections for our partnership in recruiting poll workers and educating our members and the broader Tampa Bay community this election cycle.

# National/State Advocacy

## Legislative Successes

The Chamber was successful navigating the 2020 session. Among the Chamber's successes were: Fully funding the \$370M Sadowski Housing trust fund (it is supplemented with \$250M in CARES Act dollars to keep it fully funded), \$50M funding for Visit Florida, passage of "Postsecondary Education for Certain Military Personnel", passage of the "Keep Our Graduates Working Act", passage of "Deregulation of Professions and Occupations", appropriations for "Pathways to Career Opportunities", and successful passage of the General Appropriations Act and the Governor's Tax Package. All in all, the Chamber saw success in nearly 90% of its positions.

## COVID-19 Relief

On behalf of non-profits and not-for-profits, the Chamber continued to advocate for inclusion in subsequent COVID-19 relief packages. The Chamber also advocated for the reauthorization of the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) until at least December 31, 2020. Additionally, the Chamber signed-on to the following letters urging Congress to:

- Provide recovery relief funds for Cultural Institutions, including the STRAZ
- Pass the Pandemic Risk Insurance Act of 2020 (H.R. 7011), which would establish a system of shared public and private compensation for business interruption losses and event cancellations resulting from future pandemics or public health emergencies. If enacted, this program would begin January 2021.
- Pass the Skills Renewal Act (H.R. 7032 / S. 3779), per proposed amendment. The Skills Renewal Act would provide Americans who have been laid-off or furloughed due to COVID-19 a \$4,000 tax credit to pursue post-secondary skills training and career development.
- Address inequality in our society.

## Hosting Health and Human Services

The Chamber hosted U.S. Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) Eric Hargan. HHS is dedicated to promoting and enhancing the health and well-being of the American people, and as the largest department in the federal government has an annual budget in excess of \$1.3T and over 80,000 employees across 26 divisions. Deputy Secretary Hargan began his trip with a site visit to 2017 Small Business of the Year (Startup) winner, VetCor. Chamber leadership and members engaged the Deputy Secretary in a robust roundtable discussion about the country's COVID-19 recovery efforts and the impact the pandemic has had on commerce in the Tampa Bay region.

## Roundtable Discussions

Members of the Chamber participated in a roundtable discussion with Gov. Ron DeSantis at Port Tampa Bay. The conversation focused on the reopening process for area businesses. Participants included: Tampa Bay Chamber President & CEO Bob Rohrlack, Port Tampa Bay Executive Vice President & Chief Commercial Officer Raul Alfonso, Buyer's Point President & CEO Ben Walker, SPP Executive Vice President of Corporate Leasing & Strategy David Bevirt, Black Pearl Owner Zach Feinstein, and HCP Associates Managing Partner Sean Coniglio.

The Chamber Hosted a Roundtable Discussion with US Department of Commerce Secretary, Wilbur Ross.

## Amendment Forums

Ahead of the General Election, the Chamber held proposed Florida Constitutional Amendment Educational Forums:

### Amendment 1 - Citizenship Requirement to Vote in Florida Elections

Guest Speakers:

- John Loudon - Chairman, Florida Citizen Voters (Sponsor)
- Michele Levy - Voter Services Co-Chair, League of Women Voters of Florida (Against)

### Amendment 2 - Raising Florida's Minimum Wage

Guest Speakers:

- Roxey Nelson - Vice President of Politics & Strategic Campaigns for 1199SEIU United Healthcare Workers East (Pro)
- Samantha Padgett - General Counsel for the Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association (Against)

### Amendment 3 - All Voters Vote in Primary Elections

Guest Speakers:

- Steven Vancore - Principal, VancoreJones Communications (Sponsor)
- Kara Gross - Legislative Director & Senior Policy Counsel, ACLU of Florida (Against)

# Workforce Housing

The Chamber established the Chamber Workforce Housing Subcommittee, whose purpose is to propose actionable solutions for workforce housing that the Chamber can advocate for.

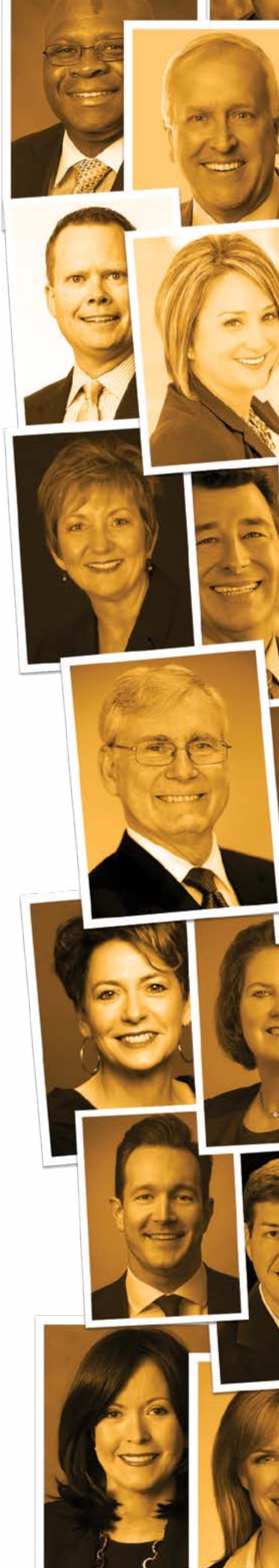
## Efforts in 2020

Met with Carole Post, Ocea Wynn, and Vanessa McCleary from the City of Tampa to discuss opportunities for the Tampa Bay Chamber to work with the City, as they implement the recommendations set forth by the Mayor's Housing Affordability Task Force.

The Workforce Housing Subcommittee met with Ernest Coney, Jr. and Sarah Combs to learn more about the strategic attainable housing plans their respective organizations have implemented in the Tampa Bay community.

The Workforce Housing Subcommittee met with Alberto Vargas, Planning Manager at Orange County to discuss the Orange County Housing for All Task Force and their workforce housing initiatives.

The Committee presented the Chamber's Workforce Housing initiative to over 100 community stakeholders and developers at the "Building Tampa's Equitable Tomorrow" info session.





# Inclusive Organization

## Accomplishments & Successes

- Graduating the second Cohort of the Minority Business Accelerator program
- Accepting the fourth Cohort of the Minority Business Accelerator program
- First class of students from Saint Leo University, The University of Tampa, and the University of South Florida begin the Collegiate Leadership Program
- Emerging Leaders young professional group had record attendance at virtual events addressing important issues in Tampa Bay
- Operation Partnership assisted over 100 service men and women transitioning out of the military and military spouses with meeting local business members and learning more about the Tampa Bay business community
- Women's programming offered the opportunity for the membership to hear from remarkable women at a variety of events

# Minority Business Accelerator

The 2020 Cohort of the Minority Business Accelerator graduated in 2020 from the 2-year program.

The Minority Business Accelerator also celebrated the start of its third cohort this year and they're well underway to the same success as the first two cohorts.

The 2022 Cohort was also announced at the Annual Meeting.

For the 2020 Calendar Year, the 2020 and 2021 Minority Business Accelerator cohorts reported the numbers in the table.

<b>30</b>	<b>New Jobs Created</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>Vacancies Filled</b>
<b>70</b>	<b>New Corporate Contracts</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>New Assets Acquired</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>Strategic Introductions Made</b>
<b>\$2.6m+</b>	<b>Secured Capital</b>
<b>\$20m+</b>	<b>Gross Sales</b>

## Founding Sponsors



## Community Partners



## 2019 Cohort



## 2020 Cohort



## 2021 Cohort



## 2022 Cohort





# Collegiate Leadership Tampa Bay

The Chamber created the Collegiate Leadership Program in an effort to retain college talent here in Tampa Bay. After two years of planning the program, the first class started in 2020. Collegiate Leadership is a tuition-based, academic-year-long program (October - April) that prepares a diverse group of college student leaders to have a positive impact on their future communities while they learn extensively about what makes Tampa Bay a favored place to live and work.

The program is for students who have a minimum of 60 credit hours while attending the program and are enrolled at Saint Leo University, The University of Tampa, or the University of South Florida.

The program recognizes students who have demonstrated leadership within their campus community, as well as academic success. As these students near degree completion, Collegiate Leadership helps introduce them to the many ways that leadership takes shape outside the academic world. This program will teach them as much about the community as it will about themselves and will empower them to continue their leadership journeys.

Program days occur once a month, during which, participants learn about various aspects of our community. Topics are updated annually to reflect issues of importance at that time. During the program, participants take part in an opening retreat session, six program days and a closing session graduation dinner.

## Sponsors



## The Inaugural Class of 2021

### Saint Leo University

Ashley Butler  
Ramon "Andy" Escalera  
Rose Foley  
Tiffany Grant  
Kendrick Gray  
Montserrat Molina  
Jade Ortner  
Nathalia Sanfiel  
Nicholas "Niko"  
Sobestanovich

### The University of Tampa

Kelly Collins  
Melissa Cuesta Valdivia  
Erin Hanson  
Jacob Jalloway  
Noah McNair  
Priyanka Yadav

### University of South Florida

Victoria Campana  
Simone DiMattia  
Junayed "JJ" Jahangir  
Jack LaGoy  
Erika Miller  
Destiny Patterson  
Gustavo Derigge  
Spangher  
Giselle Vasquez-Soto

# Emerging Leaders of Tampa Bay

**450+** Members age 21-35

Emerging Leaders is a young professional leadership program of the Tampa Bay Chamber designed for emerging leaders ages 21 to 35. Stemming from an initiative to recruit and retain talent in the greater Tampa Bay Area, the Chamber's Board of Directors approved the idea in 2003 and Emerging Leaders was launched in May 2004.

## 2020 Emerging Leaders Annual Meeting

**Founding Sponsor: ChappellRoberts**

**Presenting Sponsors: Leadership Tampa Alumni and Saint Leo University**

The 2020 Emerging Leaders of Tampa Bay Chair, Eric Ortiz, passed the gavel to the 2021 Leadership Team. Adam Myers, Tampa Bay Economic Development Council, will be the 2021 Chair, and Michelle Christie, Regions Bank, will be the 2021 Vice Chair. The 2020 Deanne Dewey Emerging Leaders Award was presented to Rebecca Arends, Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell, P.A.

## Vision Series

The Evolution of Tampa Bay which focused on how healthcare, technology and urban planning are laying the foundation for the future of Tampa Bay.

## Mentor-Protégé Program



Mentors and Protégés meet for the first time at the Mentor-Protégé Kickoff event

The Hub for Business Committee runs the Mentor-Protégé Program. In 2020 there were 64 Emerge members who were paired with mentors to help them in their personal and professional lives.

## Nonprofit Fair

Inclusion Committee held the 8th annual Nonprofit Fair - over 25 nonprofits were represented and around 100 attendees. They also hosted the Nonprofit Board Governance three course series where 30 members completed the course.

## Community Service

Lowry Park clean-up with ZooTampa and 40+ hours of volunteer work.



# Military

Since the 1940s, the Tampa Bay business community, led by the Tampa Bay Chamber, has enjoyed a close working relationship with MacDill Air Force Base - a vital part of our nation's defense and an important training location for those who safeguard America. We understand the importance of promoting and supporting our brave men and women who serve our country and call our community home.

## Military Appreciation

### Presented by USAA

- Sold-out crowd of 450+ at the event hosted at ZooTampa at Lowry Park
- Leadership from all five service branches in attendance



Military leaders and business professionals gather at the Military Appreciation event

## Military Spouse Support

In March the Chamber worked to host the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation's Military Spouse and Veteran Employment Advisory Councils in Tampa and heard from Second Lady Karen Pence as she spoke about the importance of hiring military spouses.

## Operation Partnership

This three-part program assisted over 100 service men and women transitioning out of the military and military spouses with meeting local business members and learning more about the Tampa Bay business community.

## State of the Base Event

First event of this kind which featured a panel discussion on the base's economic impact, opportunities for public-private partnerships, and how our community can be better positioned for defense growth.

## Hiring Our Heroes Corporate Fellowship Program

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Hiring Our Heroes, Corporate Fellowship Program has officially launched in Tampa Bay. As the first location in Florida to host this program, this innovative program provides transitioning service members with professional training and hands-on experience in the civilian workforce, better preparing candidates for a smooth transition into meaningful civilian careers. Open to both transitioning service members and military spouses, participants are carefully matched with participating companies based on the specific skills of the candidate and preferences of both parties. Founding sponsors for the program include: The Riley Education Foundation, Saint Leo University, Quiet Professionals, the Tampa Bay Chamber & the South Tampa Chamber of Commerce.

"I began my transition planning and networking a little over a year ago when I started attending Tampa Bay Chamber events (Operation Partnership) and job shadowing before attending the military Transition Assistance Program (TAP) at MacDill AFB. I immediately signed up to participate in the Corporate Fellowship Program's 2nd ever cohort here in Tampa and continued to network within my circles while also volunteering within the community. It was through my volunteering efforts that I found a unique spot where I could see myself landing as my post-military career here with Hillsborough County."

*Earl Brown – Deputy Chief of Emergency Operations for Hillsborough County*

"I will be forever grateful for the opportunity to participate in such an amazing initiative. The military spouse fellowship program allowed me to reenter the workforce after taking time away to care for my family. During the program, I was able to have hands on experience while developing new skills and building a professional network."

*Taina Corder – Strategic Planning Operations, Amgen*

# Women's Programming

The Chamber offers women's programming events throughout the year in addition to the annual Women of Influence Luncheon. The content for the programming is developed in partnership with the Women of Influence Committee. The committee is also active in various outreach efforts, partnering with existing Chamber programs to assist with public policy initiatives, veteran employment efforts and young professional mentorship.

## Women of Influence Luncheon

**Presented by PNC Bank**



Entrepreneur, investor, and women's rights advocate Shiza Shahid at the Women of Influence Luncheon

Featured speaker Shiza Shahid co-founded the Malala Fund with Nobel Prize winner Malala Yousafzai and led the organization as founding CEO. She is now focused on supporting mission-driven startups whose financial success makes the world a better place through her seed-stage VC Fund and Platform, NOW Ventures. And she is the Co-Founder of Our Place, a line of cookware designed to fit the needs of the modern, multiethnic American kitchen.



(L-R) Lindsay Grinstead and Dr. Sandra Braham present Dianne Jacob of PNC Bank with the 2020 Dottie Berger MacKinnon Woman of Influence Award

## Pearls of Experience

At the first women's programming event of the year, attendees took to the golf course with professional instructors to practice driving and putting. The event also featured remarks from Clemmie C. Perry, Founder & Executive Director, Women of Color Golf & Girls on the Green Tee.

The second Pearls of Experience event of the year was hosted virtually in partnership with Mise en Place. Attendees had the opportunity to learn from a sommelier during a facilitated wine tasting. Every attendee received a delivery of 2 bottles of wine and appetizers from Mise en Place for consumption during the event.





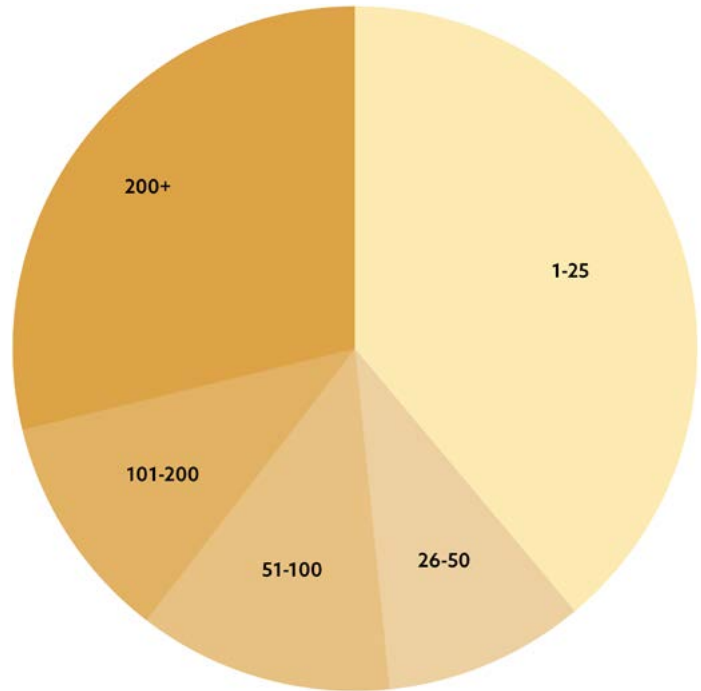
# Hub For Business

## Accomplishments & Successes

- Record number attendance at virtual Chamber events and programming
- 147 New members were added to the Tampa Bay Chamber in 2020
- Leadership Tampa Class of 2020 graduates & Leadership Tampa Class of 2021 begins
- LTA provided scholarships for nonprofit staff and civil employees of the Leadership Tampa Class of 2020
- The Workforce Development committee worked with the policy committee to ensure that there were workforce development issues added to the 2021 Legislative Agendas
- Hosted the 40th Annual Small Business of the Year Awards and the 135th Annual Meeting

# Membership

<b>517</b>	<b>1-25 Employees</b>
<b>126</b>	<b>26-50 Employees</b>
<b>160</b>	<b>51-100 Employees</b>
<b>143</b>	<b>101-200 Employees</b>
<b>383</b>	<b>200+ Employees</b>
<b>1,329</b>	<b>Total Active Members</b>



## Membership Committee

Membership Committee members are business leaders who are committed to helping the Tampa Bay Chamber build a strong, diverse and active business community.

<b>147</b>	<b>New Members</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Member Upgrades</b>
<b>11,000</b>	<b>Event Attendees</b>

The Chamber offers unprecedented benefits and opportunities for Tampa Bay businesses to engage and prosper. There are resources for businesses large and small, whether you are focused on growing your business by making key connections or shaping public policy and positively impacting the business environment alongside the region's most active executives and leaders. There are a lot of opportunities to get involved and build relationships through more than 100 business development and networking programs annually.

## Ambassador Committee

Ambassadors assist member representatives to engage and leverage involvement. With visibility as one of the greatest benefits of Chamber membership, the Ambassador committee helps you get noticed. The Tampa Bay Chamber has earned a reputation of being the Hub for Business in Tampa Bay. It's the activities of member companies that keep Tampa Bay's business community vibrant and the quality of life attractive throughout our region. With such a large membership, the Chamber relies on the Ambassador Committee to engage each and every member and help get them involved in all that the Chamber has to offer.

- Anniversary recognition for 1st and 5th year members
- Assist members in leveraging their Chamber involvement
- Key component in member retention efforts
- Called on over 850 members
- Face-to-face member visits
- 17 Ribbon Cuttings
- Hosted Coffee Connection 3x a year



# Empowerment Program Challenge

AT&T, a member of the Tampa Bay Chamber, approached the Chamber about creating a program that would increase the participation and relationships of Black owned and led businesses and non-profits. The Chamber's work in establishing the Minority Business Accelerator Program that seeks to help Black and Hispanic owned businesses reposition themselves to attract capital, scale their business operations, and increase sustainability in the marketplace - made it a perfect vehicle for this idea.

To help continue the diversity, equity, and inclusion conversation within our community, AT&T has provided the Chamber with a one-time contribution, that will provide up to eight one-year Fit 3 (top tier) Chamber memberships to Black owned businesses and Non-Profits that are not already Chamber members starting in 2021.

“ We know and understand the important relationships and business growth that can result from being a member of the Chamber. It's critically important to our community's future that Black owned businesses and non-profits have an opportunity to benefit from the value the Chamber provides.”

*Edwin Narain – Director of External and Legislative Affairs, AT&T*

AT&T also posed the contribution as an opportunity or even a challenge for other Chamber members to participate in making a difference. The initiative has been posed to the rest of the organizations that make up the Tampa Bay Chamber, for them to sponsor Black owned businesses or non-profits.

Amgen, Integral Energy, Moffitt Cancer Center, Nielsen, Regions Bank and The Whiting-Turner Contracting Company joined the challenge to provide one-year, top-tier Chamber memberships to Black-owned businesses and nonprofits that are not already Chamber members.

# Leadership Tampa

Leadership Tampa is focused on professionals who hold leadership positions within their companies or organizations. Since 1970, Leadership Tampa has introduced its class members to major facets of the Tampa Bay region through an intensive course. Founded by the Tampa Bay Chamber, Leadership Tampa's members participate in educational sessions, tours and candid conversations with community leaders.

- Leadership Tampa Class of 2020 - 48 business professionals
- The 49th Leadership Tampa class graduated in November 2020

## Leadership Tampa Class of 2020

Daniel Amat	Rob Kane
Sheri Anderson	Chad Keller
Scott Barnhard	Scott Knight
Michael Baumaister	Kris Knox
Bill Benner	Tate Kubler
Liam Brien	Manny Leto
Maureen Butler	Mark E. Lewis
Silvana Capaldi	Susan (Suzy) Shorter Lopez
Erin Richey Carlson	Brian Maguire
Kim Christine	Amy Martinez-Monfort
Sarah Colby	Derek Mateos
Michelle Coleman	Frank T. Moya
Greg Cullison	Kathryn Pankow
Terrie F. Daniel	Jason Pepe, Ed.D.
Alan "Tad" Denham	Col. Edward P. Phillips
Cameron Diehl	Heather Rubio
Kelli Ayers Edson	Anthony Santucci
Erick A. Elliott	Ghada Skaff
Jonathan Ford	Robert Tetreault
Conan Gallaty	Tony Thomas
Rhonda Gindlesperger	Barbara Tripp
Cathy G. Grant	Susan Nunn Williams
Paul Greenwood	Nikki Wills
Elise W. Huszar	Alisa M. Žujović, Ph.D.



# Leadership Tampa Alumni

**533** Members

Leadership Tampa Alumni extends the Leadership Tampa experience by fostering professional relationships, offering unique educational programs and promoting leadership to grow business and build community.

LTA members served as mentors to young professionals in the Emerging Leaders of Tampa Bay Protégé Program. Over 34% of the mentors in the program were LTA members.

Ron Christaldi with Shumaker, was named the 2020 Parke Wright III Leadership Award recipient at the Leadership Tampa Alumni Annual meeting

## Memorial Middle School

Leadership Tampa Alumni has continued to support Memorial Middle School through their "Adopt a School" program. LTA raised and contributed \$625 to the 8th Grade Clap-out graduation for Memorial Middle School. Memorial Middle School was looking for support in providing school supplies to the 705 registered students they serve to help them stay organized and on task. Leadership Tampa Alumni members helped to provide items like notebooks, pencils, folders, water bottles, and gift cards to Wal-Mart and Amazon.; totaling over \$4,000 worth of supplies.



Students and teachers from Memorial Middle School do a drive-thru graduation with the support of LTA

## Feeding Tampa Bay

In a show of true community partnership, The Tampa Bay Chamber, Emerging Leaders, and Leadership Tampa Alumni successfully helped fellow Tampa Bay Chamber member Feeding Tampa Bay in an inaugural joint volunteer event. Volunteers provided the manpower of over 50 volunteers to help at their Mega pop up food pantry event on November 14.

## Chair's Choice

Leadership Tampa Alumni held their annual Chair's Choice event virtual sponsored by Uliano Law, on the topic Reflecting on the Centennial of the 19th Amendment - A discussion with Tampa Bay's Women in Politics.

# Workforce Development

The committee began in 2014 and was positioned as a hub for the partnerships created between our business community and academic institutions. In 2017, in conjunction with the Chamber's Vision 2026, the committee expanded their focus to include addressing the gaps that exist in workforce development and workforce talent. In 2020, the committee changed its name from Education Connection to Workforce Development committee to reflect its efforts in addressing workforce development and workforce talent in the community. The mission of the committee is to develop workforce talent, advocate for innovative educational initiatives and inspire meaningful academic and business partnerships.

## Storytime Online

The Committee helped to get over 65 members of the business community to participate in the 2020 Storytime Online initiative launched in partnership with the Tampa Bay Chamber, the Hillsborough Education Foundation, Hillsborough County Public Schools, and Scholastic. This early childhood literacy initiative provided a sense of normalcy for students who were lacking this reading experience typically provided by their teachers in school and helped to continue their learning progress while fostering a love of reading.

## Webinars

The Workforce Development Committee hosted two webinars in May: "Work Redefined: Closing the Gap" and "Navigating Reemployment Resources". The Work Redefined event highlighted TECO's partnership with Hillsborough Community College and the University of South Florida that provides educational opportunities and economic advancement for their employees. The Navigating Reemployment Resources webinar focused on the employment resources available for those who were economically impacted by COVID-19.

## State of Workforce Development

Members virtually attended the Workforce Development Committee's State of Workforce Development event where they heard from State Senator Janet Cruz, Chancellor Henry Mack, and Hillsborough County Public Schools Superintendent Addison Davis.

## Sponsors



## Legislative Agenda

In 2020 the Workforce Development committee worked with the policy council to ensure that there were workforce development issues added to the 2021 Legislative Agendas for the Chamber. Initiatives include supporting:

- Apprenticeship programs and experiential training offerings
- Associate of Science dual enrollment course offerings
- Funding flexibility for multiple learning environments (virtual, e-learning, and in-person)
- Incorporating Career and Technical Education curriculum at the K-12 level
- Targeted plans that create a skilled pipeline of talent to support and sustain Tampa Bay's ongoing economic development activities
- Bridging the digital divide
- Continuous policy guidance for schools related to COVID-19
- Expansion of online learning infrastructure
- Including industry certification and skilled training in school and district grade calculations as an additional student success measure
- Legislation that authorizes public schools to offer coding as a second language and colleges/universities to accept coding as a foreign language credit

# Community Outreach

The Community Outreach Committee supports the Chamber pillars, of an inclusive, catalytic, leader and provides an avenue for members to come together for the betterment of the community. The committee worked with six (6) non-profit Chamber members and had the opportunity to understand their mission, contribution to the community, and needs of the organization. After participating in the “workdays” members volunteered to take on projects either for themselves or their companies.

## Quest Inc.

20 volunteers painted a geometric patterned wall for the non-profit that works with cognitive/physically challenged individuals. The new physical training room wall provides an inspirational environment for both clients and staff.

## Junior Achievement Career Days

With COVID-19 forcing a lockdown on the county, over 40 volunteers found ways to virtually participate in Career Day by video-taping their business paths. The 15-minute videos were individually recorded and told the stories of how our business professionals navigated their careers, overcame obstacles, and have found success in their professional lives. The videos are being used to augment the online teaching tools and student experience.

## Sylvia Thomas Center for Adoptive & Foster Families

A drive-by event allowed for ten Chamber & Emerge volunteers to make the most out of a Back to School Bash. Over 70 children were provided with school supplies and a gift card to buy a bookbag of their choice.

**145** Volunteers

## Phoenix House Florida

Many hands made for light work as 18 volunteers utilized their special talents from building, to painting, to organizing, and even closet styling to make a difference for this non-profit that provides services in the substance abuse and behavioral services space.

## Feeding Tampa Bay

The Chamber, Leadership Tampa Alumni and Emerging Leaders joined forces to deliver over 3,500 food boxes to our fellow citizens at the HCC mega tent. Following CDC guidelines, 47 volunteers brought awareness to food insecurity in our community.

## Metropolitan Ministries

In addition to the Chamber being a food and gift donation site for Metropolitan Ministries, 10 volunteers worked the holiday tent which creates a memorable holiday for thousands of families in the Tampa Bay community.

NOTE: The number of volunteers able to participate in the projects were limited by the non-profits due to management/oversight.

# Small Business of the Year Awards

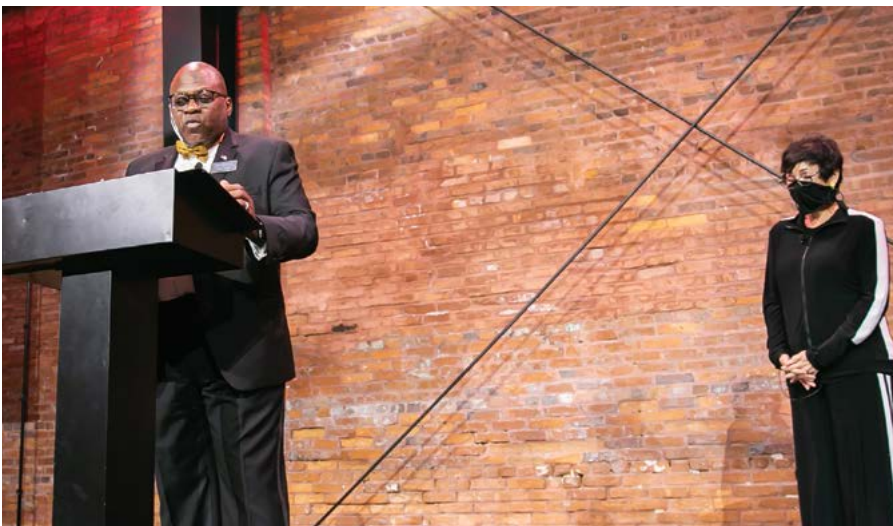
Presented by Adcock Financial Group and Warren Averett



Tampa Mayor Jane Castor addresses the finalists at SBOY

For 40 years the Chamber has hosted a Small Business of the Year Awards event for small businesses to compete in a 9-month long process for the chance to have the title of Small Business of the Year in the Tampa Bay community. Every year, companies from all over the region vie for the chance to take home the title in 5 categories: Startup, 5-20 employees, 21-50 employees, 51-250 employees, and Outstanding Leader of the Year. The winners are then nominated for the National Small Business of the Year Competition with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

**400+** 2020 Nominations



2020 SBOY Program Chair Brian Butler and Tampa Bay Chamber Chair Maryann Ferenc present the award winners



**Outstanding Leader**  
**Mike Harting**  
**3 Daughters Brewing**

Startup



**IMPERIUM**  
DATA NETWORKS

Imperium Data Networks

5-20 Employees



Meter Technology Werks  
(MTW)

21-50 Employees



Bay Food Brokerage

51-250 Employees



Southern Manufacturing  
Technologies, Inc.

# 135<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting



**2020 Chair Maryann Ferenc**

In 2020 the Chamber hosted its 135th Annual Meeting with a hybrid in-person and virtual audience from all over Tampa Bay. 2020 Chair Maryann Ferenc, Owner/Co-Proprietor of Mise en Place passed the gavel to 2021 Chair Yvette Segura, Regional Vice President at USAA.



**Bob Rohrlack presents the H.L. Culbreath Jr. Profile in Leadership Award to Edwin Narain, Esq., Area Vice President at AT&T, for his leadership that has made a positive impact on the Tampa Bay community**





**TAMPA BAY  
CHAMBER**

---

**WWW.TAMPABAYCHAMBER.COM**

**VISION**  <sup>20</sup><sub>26</sub>