



June 22, 2017

Contact: Felicia Harvey
fharvey@tampachamber.com
813.276.9492
813.489.9284 cell

Chamber launches Minority Business Accelerator

Tampa, Fla. – The Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce the launch of its Minority Business Accelerator program. This program is geared towards helping Black and Hispanic business owners identify and overcome barriers to company growth. The MBA will provide participants with the tools and knowledge to increase their organizational capacity, cultivate business opportunities & referrals and raise their brand awareness and visibility

“One of the pillars of the Chamber’s ten-year vision plan is to be an inclusive organization. The Minority Business Accelerator is the first program under that pillar and we are excited to launch the program in the first year of our vision plan. This program is the result of the engagement and hard work of many Chamber volunteers over the last three years and I look forward to announcing the first class at our Annual Meeting this year,” said Mike Griffin, Chair, Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce.

Recruitment for the program begins in August and there will be two Community Info Sessions prior to the application period to allow business owners that want to learn more about the program. The inaugural participants in the program will be announced at the Chamber’s 132nd Annual Meeting on December 14.

“I have been involved in this project since I co-chaired the Minority Business Caucus two years ago. This initiative is the culmination of researching similar programs in other communities and understanding the needs of the Tampa/Hillsborough County area. I am excited to chair the first class of our Minority Business Accelerator and I look forward to helping Black and Hispanic owned and operated businesses in our community reach their fullest potential,” said Bemetra Simmons, Chair, Minority Business Accelerator Program

More information about the MBA program can be found at www.tampachamber.com/mba. For media interested in attending the Community Info Sessions, please contact fharvey@tampachamber.com

Community Info Session #1

June 27, 2017 @ 11:30 am – 1 pm
Robert W. Saunders Library
1505 N. Nebraska Ave
Tampa, FL 33602

Community Info Session #2

June 29, 2017 @ 12:30 pm – 2 pm
West Tampa Branch Library
2312 W. Union St.
Tampa, FL 33607

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