

Big 4 Chamber of Commerce

MEMBERSHIP GUIDE





Big 4 Chamber & Community Foundation

2025 Year-End Review

Building Community. Supporting Business. Investing Locally.

As we close out 2025, the Big 4 Chamber of Commerce and Nashua Community Foundation are proud to reflect on a year marked by collaboration, growth, and continued investment in our communities of Nashua and Plainfield. This Year-End Review highlights the work accomplished through the dedication of our members, volunteers, board members, and community partners.

Our Mission in Action



Events & Community Engagement

- **Annual Chamber Banquet** (October 11, 2025) Celebrated community leaders, businesses, and volunteers while recognizing their contributions to the Big 4 towns
- **BBQ Contest & Fair Activities** – Continued growth and strong participation; with local sponsorships, visiting teams, and significant community visibility.
- **Holiday Promotions** – Encouraged shopping local through punch cards, drawings, and Chamber Bucks



Business Support & Membership

- Maintained over 30+ active members, including cities, nonprofits, and private employers
- Approved updated membership structure for 2026, offering clearer value tiers, and contributions to the Foundation.
- Expanded focus on marketing support, education and training opportunities requested by members:



Financial Stewardship

\$20,000

Community reinvestment

- **Chamber Operating Account**
- Nashua Community Foundation
- Chamber Bucks
- Scout Cabin Account



Community Projects & Investments

- **Beautification & Quality of Life**
 - Flower Pot & Planter Programs in Nashua and Plainfield; including seasonal awards, and winter transitions
- **Wayfinding & Crosswalk Signage** secured through 5-2-1-0 funding; with installation coordination ongoing:
- **Youth, Parks & Recreation**
 - Support for park programming. Winter Fest; Open Mic Night meals, and playground funding efforts
- Mailboxes for 41 students and continued discussion around a future Job & Career Education Fair
- **Historic Preservation**
 - Continued leadership on the Boy Scout Cabin Project
 - Open House with over 60 attendees
 - Trailer outfitting, signage, and safety upgrades.
 - Progress toward a hand-carved Totem Pole.



Thank You

None of this work would be possible without our dedicated board members, volunteers, sponsors, and Chamber members. Your time, ideas, and financial support continue to make a measurable difference in our communities.



Together, We are stronger. 

You are invited to join...



Big 4
Chamber of Commerce

The Big 4 Chamber of Commerce supports local businesses by bringing people together, encouraging growth, and creating opportunities to succeed. Our mission is to connect businesses, support economic development, and serve as a trusted resource for our members. Whether you are a new business, a long-standing organization, or a community partner, the Big 4 Chamber is here to support you.

In addition to hosting events and programs that increase visibility and engagement, the Big 4 Chamber offers a variety of member benefits, including:

- Business promotion and marketing opportunities
- Member features through email and social media
- Networking and community events
- Event and program sponsorships
- Business referrals and community exposure
- Support for ribbon cuttings, grand openings, and business milestones

Our goal is to keep members connected, informed, and growing within the Big 4 community.

Sincerely,

Val Johnson, President and At-Large Representative

Doug Karsjens, VP and Medical

Karen Mehmen, Treasurer and Agriculture

Amanda Tupper, Secretary and At-Large

John Ott, City of Nashua

Allen Pederson, At-Large

Leatha Springer, Civic

Nate Sinnwell, Recreation

Jay Marley, Education

Joel La Rue, At-Large

Heather Chambers, Business

Ken Lawrence, At-Large

Brittney Lentz, City of Plainfield



Chamber Membership

The Big 4 Chamber of Commerce brings businesses together to create a stronger, more connected community. Membership gives you visibility, access, and a network of support to help your business succeed.

Together, we can accomplish more than we could individually.

CONNECT & NETWORK

Business After Hours
Member Meetings & Social Events
Annual Events and Community Gatherings
Opportunities to connect with other local businesses

BE INFORMED & INVOLVED

Chamber updates
Information on local, regional, and state opportunities
Access to resources that impact your business
Opportunities to serve on committees or volunteer

Promote Your Business

Website business directory listing
Member spotlights and promotions
Email and social media highlights
Ribbon cuttings, grand openings, and celebrations
Event and program sponsorship opportunities

Advocate & Grow

A collective voice for the business community
Support for economic development efforts
Connections with community leaders and partners
Programs designed to strengthen and grow local business

Networking + Programs + Education

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

These events are designed to draw attention to your business while providing networking opportunities for Chamber member businesses. Business After Hours are held at a member business once a quarter from 6-7:30 pm. Call the Chamber to arrange/host one of these popular get-togethers.

PROGRAMMING

- Welcome Back to the Culpepper & Merriweather Cirus
- Chamber Bucks (See below)
- Education opportunities (See below)

CHAMBER BUCKS

Chamber Bucks are a convenient way to support local businesses while keeping dollars in our community. The program began six years ago as part of a holiday promotion and has continued to grow due to strong community support.

Today, Chamber Bucks are available for anyone to purchase as gifts for friends, family, employees, or customers. They can be used at participating Chamber member businesses, making them a simple way to shop local and give meaningful gifts.

Chamber Bucks are available for purchase at **Lincoln Savings Bank** and **Pederson Plumbing & Heating**.

Give the gift of shopping local.

EDUCATION (NEW)

The Chamber is working on strategic partnerships with area agencies to offer sessions to improve your skills in 2026 and/or prepare you for a leadership role. Stay tuned!

2026 Benefits	Student \$10	Individual \$75	Basic \$150	Advantage \$300	Builder \$500	Enhanced Builder \$1000	Foundational \$1500
Standard Benefits	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Business Listed on printed Chamber Map			X	X	X	X	X
Eligible to Accept Chamber Bucks			X	X	X	X	X
Eligible to Participate in Chamber Holiday Promo			X	X	X	X	X
Business Ribbon Cuttings			X	X	X	X	X
Clickable Name on Chamber Website			X	X	X	X	X
15% of membership to NCF for Business Development***			X	X	X	X	X
Priority Listing on Chamber Website				X	X	X	X
Banquet Tickets				2	3	4	5
Annual Membership Spotlight					X	X	X
Sponsored post for milestone anniversaries					X	X	X
Chamber-led classes					50% discount	1 free	2 free
Unlimited Job Listings website & Facebook page						X	X
Sponsorship of BBQ and Team						X	X
Business Banner advertising at all events							Included

* 50% discount for 2+ businesses and 20% discount for non-profits, *** Nashua Community Foundation (NCF) Contribution is made after discounts

Standard Benefits

Your Business or Organization item in Welcome Bags

Eligible for Board Positions

Eligible to attend all meetings

Place items on Community Calendar

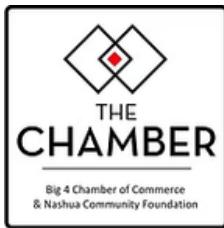
Host Business After Hours

Supporting Community Growth

Ala Carte Item & Advance Sponsorships

(Circle item, make a note if something else or enter amount)

Item	Quantity	Total
Job Listing - \$50 each	x _____	\$ _____
Mailbox (est. \$28/each) - 53 students	x _____	\$ _____
Baccalaureate (Cups, Napkins, Juice Cookies)	x _____	\$ _____
Circus	x _____	\$ _____
BBQ (amount applied to sponsorship levels)	x _____	\$ _____
Back to School/ Business Event	x _____	\$ _____
Donation to Nashua Community Foundation	x _____	\$ _____
Total		\$ _____



Membership Application

Contact Information

Date: _____

Business Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Contact Person: _____ Phone Number: _____

Email: _____ Business Phone: _____

Contact Person: _____ Phone Number: _____

Email: _____ Business Phone: _____

Website: _____ Facebook: _____

Instagram: _____ Twitter: _____

What business services or products does your company provide:

What year did your business start: _____

Is your business celebrating an anniversary or special celebration this year?

Tell us about it: _____

Number of Full Time Employees: _____ Part-Time: _____

Membership Level Requested: _____ \$ _____

20% discount for Non-Profit \$ _____

50% discount on 2+ business \$ _____

A la Carte Items (Total from page) \$ _____

Complete the application and email to nashuaareacahmber@gmail.com

Mail: Big 4 Chamber | PO Box 51, Nashua, IA 50658 | 641-715-7599

SAVE THE DATE!



Big 4 Chamber & Nashua Community Foundation

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR ALL OF THE FUN, FESTIVITIES,
& IMPORTANT DATES COMING IN 2026!



01/12 – Noon – Chamber Meeting at the Old Bradford Museum
& Membership Drive

01/15 – Chickasaw Community Foundation Grant Due:

01/24 - Winterfest

• **January** Board Nominations begin for Big 4 Chamber and Nashua Community Foundation

- Non-profits Submit 990
- Businesses - Check your biennial filing deadlines and review your legal documentations
- **February** - Plainfield Days Superbowl Pizzas

• **March** Chamber & Foundation Board Elections
14 - Chamber Banquet

- **May 3 - 9** - Small Business Week
- **June 11-14** - Rummage Sales
- **June 25-28** - Water Over the Dam Days
- **July 9 - 11** - Plainfield Days

• **Summer** Culpepper & Meriweather Circus

- **July 31 - August 2** - Ionia Days
- **September 3 - 7** - Big 4 Fair
- **September 5** - The Best Dam BBQ Challenge
- **October 25** - Trunk-or-Treat on Main
- **November 15** - Holiday Promo
- **December 5** - Christmas in Nashua
- TBA - Christmas on Main, Plainfield

• and MUCH MORE!



ONGOING WEEKLY:

- Tuesdays at Compass - Free Community Info & Meal
- Wednesdays - Story Hour at Plainfield Library



LEARN MORE AT:
www.big4chamber.org



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK:

www.fb.com/unlockingnashua

www.fb.com/TheBestDamBBQChallenge