



THE LOCAL PURCHASING CHALLENGE

We challenge you to make one simple decision that will transform our local economy; ultimately improving the bottom lines of our members – all without spending any more money than your company currently spends.

How? Take the Local Purchasing Challenge. It really is simple. Shopping local is not just a consumer activity. By simply **reallocating** your purchasing dollars for products and services from a non-local vendor to a local one (**again, not spending more**), your company will be part of creating significant economic impact in Champaign County.

What's in it for me you ask? The more companies that agree to shift some of their purchasing back to Champaign County means more local companies will see increased sales. As much as you want local companies to buy your goods and services, your fellow Chamber members want you to buy more locally as well. It means better customer service, quicker turnaround and no shipping.

More local purchasing means more money in the local economy. It means more money to keep jobs and create jobs. Your commitment to this grassroots effort, along with other local businesses will make the dollars add up. **Again, without spending more than you have already budgeted.** In fact, did you know that according to Civic Economics West Michigan that \$140,000,000 of new economic activity means 1,600 newly created jobs and \$50,000,000 in new wages. Imagine being part of creating 1,600 new local jobs without spending more than you already spend. Take the Local Purchasing Challenge. Help make a difference in our community.

It doesn't get easier than this:

- Step 1** Identify the categories/line items in your budget where you spend money outside of Champaign County.
- Step 2** Commit to reallocating a small portion of that purchasing back to a business in Champaign County. Use the Chamber as a resource to find a local vendor.
- Step 3** Take the Challenge and return this card to the Champaign County Chamber of Commerce.
- Step 4** Honor the promise.
- Step 5** Update the Chamber on your status when asked (quarterly update).
- Step 6** Sit back and feel good about your decision to help improve your business and our economy. Watch our local economy and local businesses grow.

Yes, please list and promote our company as a local business committed to purchasing more locally. I understand our actual pledge will not be published.

Name _____

Business _____

Address _____

E-mail _____

Phone _____

Between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018, our company commits to reallocating purchasing dollars spent with vendors outside of Champaign County to local businesses by (at least) the amount indicated below:

- | | | |
|--------------|-------------|-----------------|
| ___ \$10,000 | ___ \$2,500 | ___ \$500 |
| ___ \$7,500 | ___ \$1,000 | ___ \$100 |
| ___ \$5,000 | ___ \$750 | Other: \$ _____ |

The Chamber will track the **collective** amount pledged. We will report the numbers back to the membership all while keeping your pledge confidential. **Please return form by April 30.**

Have questions? Contact Lindsay at LindsayQ@champaigncounty.org or call 217.359.1791. Please complete this form and fax to 217.359.1809 or mail to:

Champaign County Chamber of Commerce
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