



PRESS RELEASE

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Mobile Chamber Launches Capital Access Mentorship Program

MOBILE, Ala. - The Mobile Chamber is proud to introduce the Capital Access Mentorship Program (CAMP), a groundbreaking initiative aimed at providing business owners, particularly women and minorities, with the tools and resources to overcome financial obstacles and gain access to much-needed capital.

"It's all about financial mentorship. We're bridging the gap between entrepreneurs and the funding they need to turn their dreams into reality," said Barbara Peters, business development navigator at the Mobile Chamber.

CAMP will match business owners with bankers and financial experts for one-on-one counseling that's customized for each business.

Counselors will meet with the business owners monthly for six months to walk through their specific barriers and help set milestones to reach their financial goals.

"Small businesses are the backbone of our economy, and by investing in their growth and success, we are fueling the engine that drives prosperity," said Mobile Chamber President & CEO Bradley Byrne. "By providing personalized mentorship and breaking down financial barriers, CAMP empowers business owners to foster innovation, nurture the entrepreneurial spirit, and strengthen the fabric of our community."

The First Bank, Operation HOPE and Trustmark are the first banks to partner for this initiative.

"We've always identified a need for entrepreneurs to get more loan ready and I know the biggest thing working in the community development department is educating people on what they need to know to access capital," said Ira Bates, vice president of community development with The First Bank. "I'm asking more banks to come on board to help us achieve this because the need is great."

Banks interested in being part of the Capital Access Mentorship Program and business owners seeking advice can learn more by visiting <https://mobilechamber.com/small-business/small-business-support/> or calling Barbara Peters at 251-431-8617.

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About the Mobile Chamber

The Mobile Chamber is a private business organization with more than 1,700 members and the economic developer for the City of Mobile and Mobile County. The Mobile Chamber's focus is to provide members with networking, marketing and professional development opportunities, expand jobs in the area, develop the local workforce, advocate legislative priorities and offer resources to help small businesses grow. Additional information is on the Chamber's [website](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#).