

June 10, 2020

 City of Highland Park

Business Development

eNews



FOR THE LIFE OF YOUR BUSINESS

NORTH COOK AND LAKE
COUNTY



The City of Highland Park brought SCORE to the Highland Park Public Library in 2014 for those interested in entrepreneurship or small business ownership.

SCORE is a nationwide organization dedicated to helping small business owners and entrepreneurs succeed. The national organization has existed for over 50 years and operates principally under a grant from the Small Business Administration.

The North Cook and Lake Counties Chapter is one of over 300 across the country, and has over 60 volunteers who come from every industry and experience, all successful working or retired business professionals. The volunteers provide free, confidential mentoring to any member of the public. They also present seminars and workshops on a variety of business topics. Their team can be searched online or clients can go to their website and request mentoring by referral based on industry or expertise.

Currently SCORE volunteers are working virtually, since most of their host sites for face to face meetings remain closed. Interested entrepreneurs and small business owners can reach them through their chapter website:

northchicago.score.org

That website contains local information as well as serving as a portal to the national organization site. There is a wealth of information available in webinar, template (for virtually every business need), and blog/article format on the site, as well as the Find a Mentor search option that allows you to search for a specific skill set in your mentor, or an industry

experience.

For those who have not previously established a business, here are direct links for resources in their Chapter to guide new entrepreneurs and small business owners:

northchicago.score.org/getstarted is a webinar series that is called Simple Steps to Start Your Business. The series provides the participant exercises that can be used self-guided or with a mentor to consider all of the aspects necessary to start a new business.

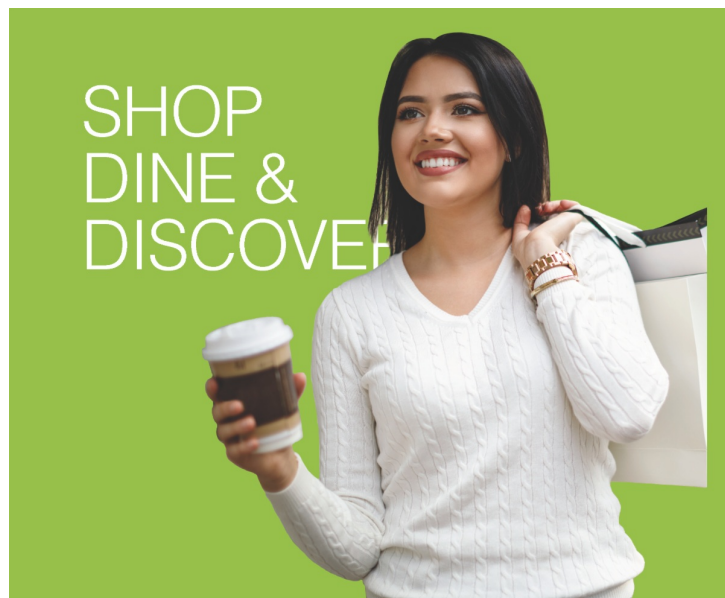
sba.gov/sites/default/files/files/resourceguide_3161.pdf is a guide published by the Small Business Administration's Illinois District Office that offers not only information on starting a business in the State of Illinois, but a list of potential financing lender options.

clillinois.edu/programs-and-classes/training-for-professionals-and-businesses/illinois-small-business-development-international-trade-center is the website for the Lake County Small Business Development and International Trade Center which operates similarly to SCORE and often partners with them to provide information and guidance to entrepreneurs and small business owners. The SBDC is funded through the State of Illinois, College of Lake County.

If you are interested in discussing how the SCORE North Cook and Lake Counties Chapter can provide further information or would like to explore delivery of a webinar version of their catalog of presentations (all of which are gradually being converted to webinar format), please contact Jennifer Lang, First Vice Chair, SCORE North Cook and Lake Counties Chapter at jennifer.lang@scorevolunteer.org. She will connect you with their Education Chair (webinars) or contact you to provide additional or specified options for their services.

Shop Local in Highland Park

Highland Park is open for business! As Restore Illinois Phase 3 guidelines permit gatherings of ten individuals or fewer, please remember your favorite local restaurants, bakeries, and frozen treat shops when planning your next socially-distanced get-together. Local restaurants are continuing to provide delivery, curbside pickup and carryout service, even if they have reopened for outdoor dining



service. Learn more at cityhpil.com/restaurantmap.

To learn about services your favorite shop, salon, or restaurant may be offering during Phase 3, please contact that business. A [directory of businesses](#) is available on the City's website.

To facilitate safe outdoor dining opportunities and to maximize service to customers, the City has closed a section of Roger Williams in the Ravinia Business District. A [detour map](#) is posted on the City's website.

Picnic in Highland Park

Bring a blanket and enjoy your next carryout meal in one of the City's new outdoor dining spaces! Areas designated for picnicking include the lawn adjacent to the Highland Park Public Library and City Hall, Jens Jensen Park, and the Port Clinton Square. Residents may enjoy a picnic or food purchased at local businesses in the new outdoor dining spaces located around Highland Park. Residents may bring their own outdoor dining accessories (chairs, picnic blankets, etc.) to enjoy meals. Certain guidelines for social distancing must be followed, including maintenance of a six-foot distance from individuals from other households.



Additional Resources

Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity industry-specific guidelines and tool kits

COVID-19 Emergency Resources For Businesses - Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity

Emergency Small Business Grant & Loan Assistance - Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity

COVID -19 Small Business Survival Guide - Illinois Small Business Development & International Trade Center

Illinois Department of Revenue Covid -19 Tax Relief

Illinois Department of Insurance (DOI)

Highland Park Chamber of Commerce COVID-19 Toolkit

Lake County Health Department

NorthShore University HealthSystem

Illinois Department of Public Health

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

For general business inquiries, contact the City's Business Development Manager Carolyn Hersch at chersch@cityhpil.com.

For more information on the City's response to COVID-19, contact the City's Communications Manager Amanda Civitello at acivitello@cityhpil.com.

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