USING TECHNOLOGY TO STREAMLINE NON-DUES REVENUE

10 THINGS YOU CAN START DOING TODAY
INTRODUCTION

Why Non-Dues Revenue Matters
Did you know 45% of chamber revenue is from non-dues sources? That’s what our 2018 ChamberMaster Survey told us loud and clear. That said, we’ve assembled the top ten ways to increase your chamber’s non-dues revenue using technology you probably already have.

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WEBSITE BANNER ADS

Most interactions from members start with your website so, make it your digital storefront to generate revenue.

There’s an inherent prestige that comes from being an official sponsor or partner of a chamber. Selling banner ads that are displayed on your website produces non-dues revenue for your chamber, and it helps your advertisers build brand recognition quickly. Be sure to place the ads strategically throughout your website and rotate them frequently.

MOBILE APP ADVERTISING

Anyone using your app is an engaged prospect in a very niche market. Use that to your advantage by turning your app into a revenue stream.

While it's best to avoid charging for the app download, consider charging for premium services within the app. A study by Moby Affiliates determined that third-party, in-app display ads are set to generate almost $9 billion in revenue by 2020.

JOB POSTING SERVICES

Your website is a logical go-to source for local employment.

An online job board can be seen as a member benefit while driving more organic traffic to your site. Consider offering this benefit to non-members at a premium price. When employers pay to boost job opportunities directly to your job board, revenue will follow.
Your social media followers are a coveted group for vendors and suppliers. So why not use promoted or sponsored posts to generate extra revenue?

Be careful about the types of promoted posts you allow. Blasting your members with ads isn’t an effective long-term strategy.

Connecting buyers and suppliers is a no-brainer. Digital versions of your directory allow you to save on printing costs and lets you do frequent updates.

While you’re at it, offer enhancements like featured listings to grow revenue while selling valuable ad space. Just don’t forget to optimize your directory for mobile devices.

Offering advertising opportunities to industry suppliers can boost the credibility of your newsletter – and bring in extra dollars. Today’s digital consumers are accustomed to seeing advertising. And in the case of chamber newsletters, the advertising tends to be highly relevant.

If you’re using email, make sure the recipient knows it’s coming from a trusted source, and don’t oversaturate!
Members look to chambers for business insights and intelligence to keep track of competition and make informed business decisions.

Since many members are willing to pay for this intelligence, you have a chance for additional revenue. Consider charging non-members a premium. When they see you as a subject matter expert, that may entice them to join.

An online auction allows members to donate and purchase items anytime from anywhere. Just make sure your membership software allows members to make secure, easy payment transactions.

In addition to the auction income, online auctions offer an opportunity to sell sponsorships.
WEB & MOBILE-BASED EDUCATION

The online learning environment (aka e-learning) is predicted to reach $325 billion by 2025 (source: Global Industry Analysists) as young professionals look to advance their careers.

Use this as an opportunity to offer sponsorships. You know the drill: “This course is brought to you by “Sponsor Name/Logo.” The webinar/video/online host can read the ads while showing images highlighting the product/service. It’s a win-win.

REMEMBER
when it comes to your non-dues revenue programs:

- Continually evaluate the programs you’re offering.
- Make sure the program is generating revenue.
- Keep asking (members, suppliers, and stakeholders) if you’re giving them what they really want.