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West Virginia Chamber Foundation Assists Small Businesses

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Charleston, W.Va. – Following the devastating floods that struck West Virginia on June 23, the West Virginia Chamber of Commerce Foundation has been working to provide much-needed assistance to small businesses that were damaged in the form of mini-grants to assist them in their rebuilding efforts.

Chamber President Steve Roberts stated, "In the immediate aftermath of the flood, the West Virginia Chamber Foundation sent truckloads of much-needed supplies to relief centers along the Elk River. These supplies included food, water, diapers, shovels, mops, pressure washers, dehumidifiers and other cleaning items. Now the Foundation has shifted its focus toward more long-term rebuilding efforts. We will continue to distribute mini-grants as long as funds are available."

In the past few weeks, the West Virginia Chamber Foundation has assisted thirty small businesses with mini-grants in Clay, Greenbrier, Kanawha, Nicholas, Pocahontas, Roane and Webster Counties. Cheryl "Sug" Sams, the owner of Sams Auction and Bargain Barn in Clendenin WV, stated, "Thanks to the West Virginia Chamber of Commerce Foundation, we will be reopened by the middle part of August."

The West Virginia Chamber of Commerce Foundation is also partnering with Rise West Virginia, an initiative of Governor Tomblin's Office, to provide additional assistance to small businesses. Those interested in applying for a mini-grant from the West Virginia Chamber Foundation or a grant from Rise West Virginia are encouraged to visit www.wvchamber.com and submit an application.

The West Virginia Chamber of Commerce Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization and your donation may be tax deductible. Donations for flood relief efforts can be made by sending a check payable to the West Virginia Chamber of Commerce Foundation to P.O. Box 2789, Charleston, WV 25330. Electronic transfers can be set up by contacting Amanda Pasdon at apasdon@wychamber.com and credit card donations can be made by calling (304) 342-1115. **100% of donations are being used for flood relief efforts.**