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# SMALL BUSINESSES NEED CUSTOMERS! TIPS TO SUPPORT THE LOCAL ECONOMY

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#SupportLocalSafely | #NCDowntownStrong | #NCSmallBizStrong

**Note to Users:** The references to companies mentioned herein are not intended as endorsements of services by the NC Main Street & Rural Planning Center. However, now, more than ever, is the time to share best practices and borrow from one another to provide resources for our communities.

*“As individuals, we have the power to change the dynamics of our local economy, by making thoughtful choices about where we spend our money.”*

*~ Liz Parham, Director, NC Main Street & Rural Planning Center*



## Tips on What You Can Do to Help Small Businesses

- Stay Healthy, Wash Your Hands Often, and Follow the [NC Department of Health & Human Services Guidelines](#).
- Follow the Social Media Channels for Small Businesses in your Community.
- Connect Virtually with Small Businesses for Products and Services.
- Comment and Share Posts from Small Businesses.
- Shop Small/Shop Local Online or Over the Telephone.
- Leave 5-Star Reviews for Businesses that You LOVE.
- Order Take-Out from Local Restaurants, Coffee Shops, Bakeries, etc.
- Promote Your Positive Experiences on Social Media.
- Buy Gift Cards NOW and Use Them Later.
- Buy Items NOW for Future Pick Up or Put Them on Layaway.
- Tip Generously.
- Maintain Subscriptions to Health Clubs, Coffee Clubs, etc.
- Participate in Virtual Events and Activities Offered by Businesses.
- Help a Small Business Owner with Childcare.
- If You Know a Small Business Owner, Ask How You Can Help Them!

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