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As a young professional and new business owner, establishing yourself within a community can be a scary and seemingly insurmountable task. You look to those who have forged the path before you for guidance and those who are traveling the same road for support. You network to gain contacts and build relationships; invest in marketing the services or products you provide and try your best to control the costs all while balancing your working hours between revenue generating activities and developing the skills necessary to run a successful business. I know because I have spent the last decade building a business in the Lehigh Valley and although I unfortunately cannot call myself young anymore I do still consider myself new and work hard every day to establish myself as a professional in this growing community.

The Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce has been a key resource in helping me to build credibility and visibility with the people and organizations I work with. The hundreds of events organized every year give me the opportunity to network and meet new people. I can always count on guidance from my Masterminds group and learn new skills through the Masterminds Tool Kit Series. The Small Business Council has given me the privilege of working with and learning from some of the brightest women and men in the Valley and the friends I have gained along the way are there to celebrate the highs and provide the support I need for the lows. I encourage anyone to experience the benefits of membership for themselves, no other organization has helped me more professionally and I only hope I can one day pay it forward as those who came before have done for me.