

Bay Front Chamber of Commerce

In 2025 we continued to focus our efforts to assist our members with marketing and looking for grants to help keep their businesses afloat. We provided opportunities for our members to sell their products and promote their services to the community through various community events that we hosted. We provided networking opportunities for local businesses and non-profit organizations.

January – Crab Feed

The event was well received by the community and the event sold out. With sponsorship money received from the City of Hercules we offered our local non-profits to share in the profits. For each ticket sold by the non-profit, \$25 was donated to the organization. This was a great opportunity for non-profits who don't have the capacity to host a fundraiser. They were able to raise money for their organization with little effort.

March – Bottles & Bites (partnership with the Hercules Education Foundation)

Three hundred fifty guests enjoyed food tastings provided by seventeen local restaurants, caterers, and bakeries. Fifteen beverage tables provided tastings of wine, beer, spirits, and non-alcoholic beverages.

The patio was set up with tables to encourage guests to mingle outdoors where they enjoyed a live band and enjoyed taking pictures at the photo booth.

City of Hercules staff provided a Child Watch at the Teen Center where children enjoyed a variety of activities. This allowed families with no childcare to attend the event.

June – Hercules Cultural Festival (partnership with the City of Hercules)

The community enjoyed local entertainment, bands, 75 artisans, business & non-profit vendors and 20 food vendors.

Contributing factors directly resulting in the success of the event include, but are not limited to participation of chamber members, having local performers, corporate sponsorships, support from the City of Hercules and more.

August – National Night Out (partnership with the City of Hercules)

This event was made possible by funding provided by the City of Hercules. The community enjoyed a variety of games and giveaways provided by local businesses and non-profits. Children enjoyed face painting, lawn games, and a bubble station. Local restaurants provided a variety of food options. The night ended with a movie provided by the Park & Rec Department.

September - Chili & Salsa Cook Off & Car Show

Although this event is held in Rodeo, it was attended by many Hercules residents. The community enjoyed music, vendors, food trucks, voted for their favorite chili, salsa and car, and had the opportunity to view 150 classic cars. The winner of the People's Choice Salsa award was won by a Hercules resident.

October

Bay Front Run (partnership with the Hercules Education Foundation)

The event consisted of a 5K & 10K chip timed run, one-mile walk, and a Kids Fun Run. Four hundred thirty eight runners registered for the event. This event continues to grow each year.

Bay Front Festival (partnership with the City of Hercules)

45 local businesses, food trucks, classic cars, music & local entertainers participated. We were able to enhance the event through funding provided by the City of Hercules.

December - Holiday Tree Lighting (partnership with Hercules Park & Rec)

We will be contacting local groups and businesses to provide entertainment and to participate during the event, as in past years we have sponsored Santa and Mrs. Clause to attend the event. We will be providing bins for the toys, canned food and coats donated at the event and will provide assistance with the layout and setup.

OTHER EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

State of the City Breakfast Meeting: The Mayors of Hercules and Vice Mayor of Pinole along with Supervisor Shanelle Scales-Preston gave a recap of projects and upcoming programs for 2025.

Mixers: Quarterly mixers were held with members of six local chambers attending. The mixers give members of the business community the opportunity to network.

Sunrise Networking: Quarterly morning meetings featuring a guest speaker, and the opportunity to network with other members of the business community.

Hercules Round Table: Organized by the chamber, Dante Hall & Tim Rood led a meeting attended by Hercules businesses and stake holders. The purpose of the round table was to update the business community and encourage dialogue between businesses and the city.