



Dear Community Members,

I will never forget the evening of September 2nd, 2020. It was the night a car crashed into Liberty's, causing an unbelievable amount of damage to our beautiful historic building. It was a scary and overwhelming time, and we can't thank the community enough for coming together to help us by donating money to help us recover. Your kindness helped us pay for things like lost income for our employees and hotels for our tenants.

After repairs and renovations were completed, we had more money than we needed. We worked with Downtown Main Street to think about ways to utilize these donated funds in an appropriate manor. We then decided to create the *Liberty's Employee Assistance Fund*.

This fund will support employees of downtown businesses who are experiencing hardships such as unforeseen medical, transportation, housing, or family care expenses. I hope these funds provide a safety net to avoid a financial hardship that could jeopardize an employee's ability to remain employed with a local business. Having experienced the kind support of this community in our time of need, we know how much it can mean to someone in a difficult situation. We will work with a core group of advisors to allocate the funds, capping the dollar amount to ensure that the money is distributed among many but still will do good. We also will set aside a larger dollar amount to help a business owner that may find themselves in a crisis as we did.

We want to support other businesses and their employees because they are important to our community and us. We hope our donors feel this is a good way to utilize their donated money. If you have questions, please contact Megan Tsui, Director of Red Wing Downtown Main Street, at director@downtownredwing.org or 612-807-0804, or contact me directly at the restaurant.

Your donations to Liberty's were a true testament to our community's kindness and generosity; for that, I am incredibly humbled and grateful.

Sincerely,

Doug Noreen