<u>SEEKING A BUSINESS SPONSOR</u>

The Miss Oak Harbor Scholarship Pageant is committed to providing an enriching experience that provides many benefits to our participants. There is no personal cost to contestants to participate in the pageant, but each contestant is required to secure a business sponsor who will pay a $300 business sponsorship fee.

Following are some tips to help you find your business sponsor.

* **Start with friends or family** members who are business owners or managers.
  Think about people who have home-based businesses, like Pampered Chef.

* **Consider businesses that you frequent**, where you will be recognized as a loyal customer, and clubs to which you are a contributing member.
  Potential sponsors are more willing to support you if you typically support them.

* Let the potential business sponsor know about the **benefits of contestant sponsorship**:
  ~ Tax-deductible donation: Miss Oak Harbor is a 501(c)(3)
  ~ Stage recognition as a Contestant Sponsor
  ~ Advertising in the pageant Keepsake Program
  ~ Logo with link on the Miss Oak Harbor website
  ~ Should you be crowned royalty, their business name embroidered on the back of your sash, which you will wear to all events during your reign.
  *Provide the **Sign Me Up to Sponsor** and **2022 Sponsorship Levels & Packages** info sheets that contain all the details for pageant sponsorship.*

* Visit the potential business sponsor **in person**; dress for success and wear a big smile.

* **Follow up** a few days after your visit, just as you would when submitting a job application.

* If you have absolutely no idea where to start, look at the **Past Contestant Sponsors** list to come up with some possibilities.

* Make sure you let the potential business sponsor know that you are on a **deadline** (you must have a business sponsor in order to submit your pageant application).

* *If you are having real trouble finding a business sponsor, do not let that get in the way of participating in the pageant; **call River** at 360-929-2097 **and ask for help**.*