

"THE MONTHLY"

National Small Business Month



Margaret E. Morton Government Center
999 Broad Street
Bridgeport, CT 06604
203-576-8473

May 2023
Newsletter



Small & Minority
Business
Enterprise



SMBE



@smbeofbpt





National Small Business Month is a yearly event celebrated in the United States during the month of May. It is a time to recognize and support the contributions of small businesses to the economy. It is a great opportunity for small business owners and entrepreneurs to network, learn, and showcase their products and services.

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BUILDING NEIGHBORHOODS TOGETHER



BRIANNA RÉGINE Visionary Consulting



A DiCesare Associates P.C.

A Special thank you goes out to the local Small Businesses that help to make Bridgeport and it's economy great.

PTYTECH, LLC IT STAFFING & CONSULTING



Email: Duffuspainting@gmail.com

Phone 203-685-2035 Lloyd Owner



Finance & Funding

Small business funding can be accomplished through various methods. One option is to seek out a traditional bank loan, which usually requires a good credit score and a solid business plan. Another option is to pursue venture capital or angel investors, which involves pitching your business to potential investors and giving up a percentage of ownership in exchange for funding. Crowdfunding has also become a popular way to raise money for small businesses, allowing them to reach a larger audience and offer incentives to backers. Additionally, grants and government programs are available for certain types of businesses or industries. Overall, there are many methods of small business funding, each with its own advantages and disadvantages.

Google any of the Grants to find out more about each grant. You can also reach out to any of the financial institutions listed for funding info.

Lenovo Evolve - 10k

KKR Small Bus. Grant

Black Founder Start-up Grant

Bar Stool Fund Grants

Fearless Fund 20k

Walmart - 5k

Halstead - 7.5k

Verizon Grant - 10k

USBUSINESSGRANTS.ORG

Cartier Womens Initiative - 10k

Fast Break for Small Business - 10k

Dream Big Awards - 25k

AT&T Black Future Maker - 10k

AWS Imagine Grant (non-profit) - 150k

Famous Amos Grant

NBA Foundation

15 Percent Pledge - 15k-20k

Shea Moisture Fund - 100k

Bipoc Fitness Grant - 5k

The K4 Foundation - \$500

IFUND Women - 100k

HER Micro Grant

Incfile Fresh Start Grant

SoGal Startup Grant

Spill the Tea Grant

The TMAG Grant



Business Highlight

Certified City-Based Business

EVOCORP

CYBER SECURITY & MSP SOLUTIONS



Evocorp is a leading provider of Cyber Security and Managed IT Services, serving businesses of all sizes in Bridgeport and beyond. With a focus on delivering customized solutions and exceptional customer service, Evocorp helps clients navigate the ever-changing landscape of IT security and compliance.

Some of the high-level services we offer include:

- IT Support Services
- Data Backup and Disaster Recovery
- Network Management Services
- Security
- Remote monitoring and management
- SaaS
- And more...

EVOCORP

NEWS

The recent Financial Literacy Event held on April 28th was a great success. The event had 20 businesses in attendance and 5 financial professionals who shared their expertise with the attendees. Overall, it was a valuable opportunity for those looking to improve their financial literacy and make informed decisions about their finances.



On May 2, 2023, the Bridgeport Entrepreneur Exchange hosted its first inaugural business networking event, which was a huge success with approximately 150 attendees. The event was made possible by the efforts of Small and Minority Business Enterprise, Colorful Bridgeport and the Bridgeport Regional Business Council. The organizers would like to express their gratitude to everyone who attended and contributed to the success of the event.



Getting Involved

NRZ

NRZs, or Neighborhood Revitalization Zones, are community-driven initiatives that aim to promote neighborhood revitalization and community empowerment. By joining an NRZ, members can work together to identify and address issues within their neighborhood, such as blight, crime, or lack of community resources. Joining an NRZ can provide opportunities for residents to get involved in local decision-making, connect with their neighbors, and improve the overall quality of life in their community

| Neighborhood Revitalization Zones (NRZ's) | | | | | |
|---|----------------|--------------|---|----------------------------|--|
| Bridgeport | | | | | |
| NRZ | Meeting Date | Meeting Time | Meeting location | President | Email |
| 1 Black Rock | TBD | TBD | TBD | Scott Burns | rsgburns@yahoo.com |
| 2 East End | 3rd Tuesdays | 6PM | Ralphola Taylor Community Center 790 Central Ave. 06607 | Keith Williams | dorie63@aol.com |
| 3 East Side | 2nd Mondays | 6PM | Crescent Crossing Comm. Rm. 581 Waterview Ave. 06608 | Tatiana Urena | tatianaurena17@yahoo.com |
| | | | | Kellie Taylor - Vice Pres. | kt40027@gmail.com |
| | | | | Bob Dzurenda - Secretary | rdzurenda@hnhonline.org |
| 4 Hollow | 4th Mondays | 6:30PM | Mt. Aery Baptist Church 73 Frank St. 06604 | Sonia Moncrieffe | Symoncrieffe@gmail.com |
| 5 Mill Hill | 2nd Wednesdays | 6PM | Frankie's Diner 1660 Barnum Ave | Nick Roussas | nikokr77@yahoo.com |
| 6 South End | 2nd Thursdays | 6PM | University of Bridgeport - Bauer Hall 82 Marina Park Cir. 06604 | Kevin Moore | kmoore@habitatctf.org |
| | | | | Paul Boucher - Vice Chair | boucherp481@gmail.com |
| | | | | Greg Breland - Sec | southend.nrz@gmail.com |
| 7 Reservoir | | | | | |
| 8 West Side/End | 1st Tuesdays | 6:30PM-8PM | Zoom | Vanessa Liles | vanessaliles@aol.com |

City Council

City councils play a crucial role in the success of small businesses. They have the power to create policies and regulations that can either benefit or hinder small businesses. Small businesses should always reach out to their city council to ensure that their voices and concerns are heard. By building relationships with city council members, small businesses can advocate for their needs and potentially receive support and resources. Ultimately, collaborating with the city council can lead to a more thriving and vibrant local economy.

| CITY COUNCIL CITY OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT 2021-2023 | |
|---|---|
| 130TH DISTRICT | |
| Scott Burns (D) 29 Eames Boulevard 06605 (203) 690-2228 Cell. Email: Scott.Burns@Bridgeportct.gov | Matthew McCarthy (D) 29 Harbor Avenue 06605 (203) 690-2013 Cell. Email: Matthew.McCarthy@Bridgeportct.gov |
| 131ST DISTRICT | |
| Jorge Cruz, Sr. (D) 251 Black Rock Avenue Apt. 2-R 06605 (203) 690-2400 Cell. Email: Jorge.Cruz@Bridgeportct.gov | Tyler Mack (D) 1115 Main Street, Unit 604 06604 (475) 422-3487 Cell. Email: Tyler.Mack@Bridgeportct.gov |
| 132ND DISTRICT | |
| (Vacant) | Rolanda Smith (D) 1099 Iranistan Avenue 06604 (475) 422-6974 Cell. Email: Rolanda.Smith@Bridgeportct.gov |
| 133RD DISTRICT | |
| Jeanette Herron (D) 202 Arlington Street 06606 (203) 395-4960 Cell. Email: Jeanette.Herron@Bridgeportct.gov | Aikeem G. Boyd (D) 783 Garfield Avenue 06606 (475) 422-3256 Cell. Email: Aikeem.Boyd@Bridgeportct.gov |
| 134TH DISTRICT | |
| Michelle A. Lyons (D) 91 Jewett Avenue 06606 (203) 414-7926 Cell. Email: Michelle.Lyons@Bridgeportct.gov | AmyMarie Vizzo-Paniccia (D) 565 Goldenrod Avenue 06606 (203) 275-6412 Cell. Email: AmyMarie.Vizzo-Paniccia@Bridgeportct.gov |
| 135TH DISTRICT | |
| Mary A. McBride-Lee (D) 125 Hillcrest Road 06606 (203) 864-5195 Cell. Email: Mary.McBride-Lee@Bridgeportct.gov | Rosalina Roman-Christy (D) 147 Yaremich Drive 06606 (475) 225-5453 Cell. Email: Rosalina.Roman-Christy@Bridgeportct.gov |
| 136TH DISTRICT | |
| Frederick Hodges (D) 195 Fairview Avenue 06606 (475) 225-6136 Cell. Email: Frederick.Hodges@Bridgeportct.gov | Alfredo Castillo (D) 1737 Noble Avenue 06610 (203) 814-9049 Cell. Email: Alfredo.Castillo@Bridgeportct.gov |
| 137TH DISTRICT | |
| Maria I. Valle (D) 561 Brooks Street 06608 (475) 225-6164 Cell. Email: Maria.Valle@Bridgeportct.gov | Aidee Nieves (D) 348 Park Street 06608 (203) 368-8569 Cell. Email: Aidee.Nieves@Bridgeportct.gov |
| 138TH DISTRICT | |
| Maria H. Pereira (D) 206 Bradley Street 06610 (203) 540-9668 Cell. Email: maria0667@salma.com | Samia S. Suliman (D) 481 Success Avenue 06610 (203) 993-5621 Cell. Email: Samia.Suliman@Bridgeportct.gov |
| 139TH DISTRICT | |
| (Vacant) | Ernest E. Newton, II (D) 190 Read Street 06607 (475) 225-6769 Cell. |

Looking Forward

The Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
of Greater Bridgeport presents



BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

REGISTER

Wednesday | May 10
5:30-7:00pm

Al's Millennium Cuts
251 North Avenue | Bridgeport, CT

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Newtown Savings Bank
The Power of Local

We want to express our deep appreciation for your past involvement. Your support and participation have been instrumental in making our events successful. We are excited to share with you that the future looks absolutely great. There will be more opportunities for small businesses to connect and thrive. Bridgeport, CT is a wonderful place to have a business, and we are committed to supporting the growth of our local community. Keep pushing forward, and we look forward to continuing to work together towards a bright and prosperous future.

Fred D. Gee Jr. - Director SMBE

Jason A. Chandersingh - Assistant Special Projects Manager SMBE

Thank You