

# "The Monthly"

Sharing is Caring

July 2023



**Margaret E. Morton  
Government Center  
999 Broad St.  
Bridgeport, CT 06604**

**203-576-8473**



Small & Minority Business Enterprise



SMBE



@SMBEOFBPT





July is recognized as Minority Mental Health Awareness Month, aimed at raising awareness about the mental health issues faced by minority communities in the US. This month's history dates back to 2008 when the US House of Representatives declared July as Bebe Moore Campbell National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month, in honor of the late author and advocate for mental health awareness. According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness, minority communities are at a higher risk for mental health challenges due to factors such as discrimination, poverty, and lack of access to healthcare. Statistics show that only one in three African Americans who need mental health care receive it, and Asian Americans are three times less likely to seek mental health services than their white counterparts. It is crucial to acknowledge the importance of minority mental health and address the disparities in access to care. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration provides resources and support for individuals seeking help for mental health challenges. Remember, mental health is integral to overall health and well-being, and seeking help is a sign of strength.





# Monthly Business Highlight



- Intensive Outpatient Services
- Substance Abuse Therapy
- Psychiatrists
- Drug Rehab Center
- Family Counseling
- Group Therapy
- Opioid Therapy
- Outpatient Alcohol Rehab
- Outpatient Counseling
- Behavioral Therapy
- Partial Hospitalization Program (PHP)
- Trauma Therapy
- Anxiety Therapy
- OCD Treatment
- Alcoholism Treatment
- Anger Management Counseling
- Bipolar Disorder Therapy
- PTSD Therapy
- Eating Disorder Treatment
- Medication Assisted Treatment

New Era Rehabilitation is a certified City-Based Business located in the heart of Bridgeport. As a Minority-Owned Mental Health facility, they are being recognized this month for Minority Mental Health Month. This recognition is important as it brings attention to the disparities in mental healthcare experienced by minority communities. According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness, minorities are less likely to receive mental health treatment and when they do, it is often of lower quality. This highlights the need for facilities like New Era Rehabilitation to address these disparities and provide quality mental health services to minority communities.

## **TRANSFORM YOUR LIFE TODAY**

### **Mental Health Professionals**

If you or a loved one are experiencing mental health issues or suspect you feel like you've tried to solve mental health problems with substances that have made your overall health worse or even created other problems, you should consider contacting our team.

#### **CONTACT INFO**

**(203) 562-2101**

**Monday - Saturday: 5am to 7pm**

**Sunday: Closed**

**info@newerarehab.com**

**4675 Main St**



# Finance & Funding

As a small business owner, it is important to understand the various finance and funding options available to you. This can help you make informed decisions about how to grow your business and stay financially stable. One potential avenue for funding is through grants, which are offered by various organizations and government entities. By researching and applying for grants, you may be able to access additional funds to support your business goals. To learn more about available grants and their eligibility requirements, check out the links provided below.



[www.usagrantsapplications.org](http://www.usagrantsapplications.org)



[www.smallbiztrends.com](http://www.smallbiztrends.com)



[www.sba.gov/funding-programs/grants](http://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/grants)



[www.finder.com/startup-grants](http://www.finder.com/startup-grants)



[www.womenandminoritybusiness.org](http://www.womenandminoritybusiness.org)



[www.aeoworks.org](http://www.aeoworks.org)



[www.sbir.gov](http://www.sbir.gov)



[www.nih.gov/grants-funding](http://www.nih.gov/grants-funding)



[www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov)



[www.americassbdc.org](http://www.americassbdc.org)



[www.usa.visa.com](http://www.usa.visa.com)



[www.walmart.org/how-we-give/local-community-grants](http://www.walmart.org/how-we-give/local-community-grants)



[www.about.nike.com](http://www.about.nike.com)



[www.iamsogal.com/black-founder-startup-grant/](http://www.iamsogal.com/black-founder-startup-grant/)



[www.secondservicefoundation.org](http://www.secondservicefoundation.org)

## Small Business Lending

Flexible and creative loans to meet the needs of your business

Product	Maximum Loan Amount	Use of Funds
Term Loans	up to \$250,000 with terms up to 10 years	Inventory, equipment, working capital, refinance debt
Commercial Real Estate Loans	up to \$500,000 with terms up to 20 years	> 51% Owner-occupied commercial real estate property
Lines of Credit	up to \$250,000 with terms up to 2 years	Cash flow needs
<b>We're Connecticut's leading SBA Microlender</b>		
SBA Microloan (Term)	up to \$50,000	Inventory, equipment, working capital, refinance debt



CEDF is an independent, nonprofit, mission-driven Connecticut small business lender. We provide loans primarily in low-to-moderate income communities and predominantly to low-to-moderate business owners who are not able to obtain traditional bank financing.

### Who can be a CEDF client?

**Either location eligible:** Any business that cannot obtain a loan from a bank located in one of the 53 state-defined targeted Connecticut communities. See the list: [cedf.com/eligibility](http://cedf.com/eligibility)

**Or income eligible:** Any Connecticut business located elsewhere in the state if the owner has a total household income at or below 80% of the state median. See our website for current limits.

### What does flexibility mean?

We work especially with business owners who:

- Have low credit scores
- Have limited collateral
- Have been turned down by a bank
- Are otherwise not qualified for a bank loan



Your next step: [cedf.com/inquiry](http://cedf.com/inquiry)

Completing the online form at the above address is the fastest way to get you staged for contact by a lender to discuss your needs

Hope and Opportunity  
for Small Business



Community Economic  
Development Fund

965 East Main Street  
Meriden, CT 06450  
203.235.2333  
888.835.2333  
Fax: 203.235.2913  
[www.cedf.com](http://www.cedf.com)



Bridgeport, a vibrant city in Connecticut, is always buzzing with exciting news and events. In the month of July, locals and visitors alike can look forward to a plethora of activities. From music festivals to art shows, there is something for everyone. The flyers provided offer a glimpse into what's happening in the city, but there are many more events taking place as well. Keep an eye on the local news and social media pages for the latest updates on all the happenings in Bridgeport.

# NEWS Events



**downtown market**  
at mclevy

thursday's  
10:30 to 2:00

## Financial Literacy Seminar BUSINESS CREDIT

Unlocking Financial Opportunities:  
The Power of Building Business Credit



- Financial literacy helps small business owners understand their financial statements, which is crucial for making informed decisions about their business.
- Knowing how to manage cash flow, budget, and control expenses can prevent small businesses from falling into debt or going bankrupt.
- Good financial management can also help small businesses qualify for loans and other forms of credit, which can be crucial for growth and expansion.
- By understanding how credit works and building good credit, small businesses can access better interest rates and terms when borrowing money.
- Finally, financial literacy can help small business owners plan for the future and achieve their long-term goals, such as retirement or selling the business.

Business credit is essential for any company to grow and succeed. Join us for a financial literacy seminar where industry professionals will be discussing the importance of business credit. Don't miss the chance to network and gain valuable insights. See you at the event!

Panel discussions to be held by:



July 31, 2023 6pm - 8pm

Margaret E. Morton Government Center  
999 Broad Street  
Bridgeport, CT 06604



EAST SIDE NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION ZONE (NRZ)  
PRESENTS:

# EAST SIDE DAY

## 2023

Street Parade  
Festival

Music  
History  
Fun

Food  
Celebration

Family  
Culture

**Saturday July 29, 2023**

Join us for the first ever "East Side Day" street parade and festival! We invite all neighborhood residents and businesses to come out and celebrate with us. The event promises to be a fun-filled day with plenty of music, food, and entertainment for everyone. Let's come together and showcase the vibrancy and diversity of our community. Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity to connect with your neighbors and make new friends. See you there!

**The parade will begin in the parking lot of St. Charles Church at 9:30am (E. Main & Stillman) traveling down E. Main St. and turning onto Barnum Ave into Washington Park.**

For more information or to sign up as a vendor or volunteer, call Tatiana Urena :203-309-0103 or email [tatianaurena17@yahoo.com](mailto:tatianaurena17@yahoo.com)



## JULY COFFEE & CONNECTIONS

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 26**  
4:00 - 5:00 PM  
@ THE BRIDGEPORT  
REGIONAL BUSINESS  
COUNCIL



# STRATFORD

POP UP

## COMMUNITY FAIR

EXPERIENCE THE FUN OF THE SEASON

**SATURDAY JULY 29, 2023**

1265 BARNUM AVE. STRATFORD CT. 06614

**10AM-7PM**

LOTS OF FUN AND ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE FAMILY  
LOTS OF GIVE AWAYS

**FOOD**

**TACOS**

**KIDS SPA**

**ICE CREAM**

**FACE PAINTING**

**way-way**

# SOUND ON SOUND

SEPT. 30 + OCT. 1 2023  
JOIN US FOR A WEEKEND OF WORLD CLASS MUSIC, LOCAL FOOD & DRINKS, AND A REIMAGINED EXPERIENCE.

SATURDAY	SUNDAY
<b>RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS</b>	<b>JOHN MAYER</b>
<b>TREY ANASTASIO BAND</b>	<b>ALANIS MORISSETTE</b>
<b>NATHANIEL RATELIFF &amp; THE NIGHT SWEATS</b>	<b>HOZIER</b>
<b>LORD HURON</b>	<b>DISPATCH</b>
<b>STEEL PULSE</b>	<b>MT. JOY</b>
<b>JOY OLADOKUN</b>	<b>BEN HARPER &amp; THE INNOCENT CRIMINALS</b>
<b>SAMMY RAE &amp; THE FRIENDS</b>	<b>MARGO PRICE</b>
<b>DEEP BANANA BLACKOUT</b>	<b>CAUTIOUS CLAY</b>
<b>BRISCOE</b>	<b>GIN BLOSSOMS</b>
<b>KIERAN RHODES</b>	<b>CALDER ALLEN</b>
<b>JULAI AND THE SEROTONES</b>	<b>SNACKTIME</b>

Home

## Small Business Energy Advantage Program

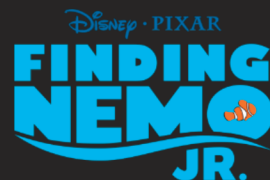
Get a no-cost, no-obligation energy assessment of your small business and then manage the installation of the energy-saving improvements.

As part of the Small Business Energy Advantage (SBEA) program, a utility-authorized contractor performs a no-cost, no-obligation energy assessment (audit) of your small business's facility and then manages the installation of the energy-saving improvements they recommend. This one-stop service, combined with our incentives and zero-interest, on-bill payment plans, allows you to get started right away on energy-saving improvements that save your business money in the long run.



Fairfield Performing Arts Studio Summer Camp Presents:

Finding Nemo, Jr  
Saturday, July 15, 2023  
2 Shows - 4pm & 7pm



Tickets  
\$20 Adult  
\$15 Senior/Child/Student

BUY TICKETS - 4PM

BUY TICKETS - 7PM

KLEIN BOX OFFICE: (800) 424-0160 x2  
BOX OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY - FRIDAY 10:00AM - 4:00PM



**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES**

### EAST SIDE FARMERS MARKET

EVERY WEDNESDAY | 10-2 PM  
JULY 12 TO SEPTEMBER 27

752 EAST MAIN STREET,  
BRIDGEPORT, CT 06608

The East Side Farmers Market is a fantastic place to buy fresh, locally grown fruits and vegetables from Connecticut farms, honey from local hives, and even have visits by community partners!

# Here For Your Support

The City Council of the city of Bridgeport serves a crucial purpose in the community, especially for small business owners and the general public. They are responsible for making important decisions that impact the city's economic development, public safety, and overall well-being. Small business owners can benefit greatly from the City Council's involvement, as they can provide resources and support to help them succeed. In particular, the Council's involvement is critical in the success of small and minority-owned businesses. By advocating for policies and programs that promote diversity and inclusion, the Council can help ensure that all businesses have an equal opportunity to thrive in Bridgeport.

## Scott Burns (D)



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29 Eames Boulevard 06605

130th District

## Jeanette Herron (D)



Majority Leader City Council

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133th District

## Matthew McCarthy (D)



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132th District



Sergeant at Arms City Council

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131th District

## AmyMarie Vizzo-Paniccia (D)



Deputy Majority Leader City Council

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## Rosalina Roman-Christy (D)



Deputy Majority Leader  
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City Council President

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## Ernest E. Newton II (D)

139th District



President Pro Tempore  
City Council

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*Here for you!!*

**CITY  
COUNCIL**

City of Bridgeport