Modernizing Municipal Policy

to support local business development



NeighborWorks Housing Solutions

NeighborWorks Housing Solutions



NeighborWorks® Housing Solutions (NHS) is a one-stop-shop for finding and maintaining safe, affordable, high-quality housing and growing financial skills and resources. We provide the answers and support individuals and families need.

Our services include rental assistance; emergency financial help; shelter and homelessness prevention; first-time homebuyer education and counseling; financial coaching; foreclosure prevention; affordable residential and small business loans; and construction and management of high-quality rental housing across Southern Massachusetts.

NeighborWorks Building a Better Business Program



Building a Better Business

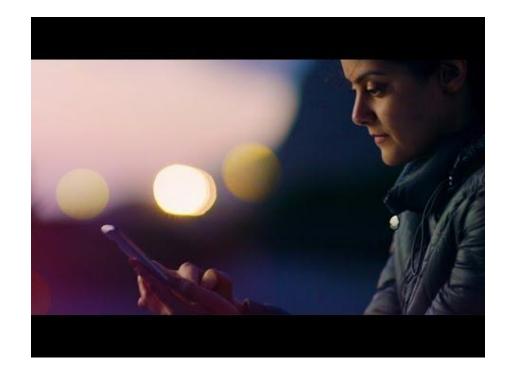
In 2019, NeighborWorks Housing Solutions was tasked with managing a \$1M Venture Loan Fund for the City of Brockton. Created by five financial entities, HarborOne Bank, Eastern Bank, SCU Credit Union, Rockland Trust and North Easton Savings Bank, this fund is for small businesses who want to start, grow and/or relocate to Brockton.

Each new or growing business helps to fuel the city's economic engine by creating jobs and stimulating the need for housing. Through the banking partnership, opportunities can be envisioned in the local business community.

This fund allows small businesses loans of up to \$50,000 for businesses in Brockton. To qualify for the fund, NeighborWorks has developed a small business

General Business Facts

We live in a world of "micro moments"





Marketing Mishaps

Inadequate Management

Lack of Funding | Working Capital

Ineffective Business Planning



Digital Inadequacy

"Digital inequity, also known as the digital divide, refers to the economic, educational, and sociocultural disparities that arise from inadequate access to and utilization of technology."

What are some of the business resources available?

SBA Resources







Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development (EOHED)



Regional Business Resources









Local Business Interest Groups













What do Businesses Need?

Education, Education, Education

- Town/City Business Resource Page 1.
- Leaflets with Business Resources 2.
- How to Start a Business in "Town/City" Guide or Page 3.
- The Importance of Business Planning 4.
- 5. Monthly Updates





MSRD



Access to Capital through Grants and Loans











ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Streamlined & Collaborative Resources Using Consistent Messaging



How can Municipalities Support Small Businesses

Communication: A Clear Pathway to Business Resources



- Social Media Updates
- Email Newsletters
- SMS (Especially for Emergencies)
- Online Permitting
- Clear Zoning Practices
- New Business Checklist

Parking and Signage Planning and Collaborating



What do parking requirements do to businesses?

Make it easy to visit local stores



Local Rules Outdated for Modern Business

Liquor Licenses, Commercial Kitchens, and Permitting Fees, OH MY!





questions and answers

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