

**SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM**

**Alabama**

**1 Central Alabama Women's Business Center**

Patricia Todd, President  
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**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
 First Year Funding: R-2001  
  
 SBA Region: 4  
 Population: Urban

We provide entrepreneurial counseling and training to women at any stage of small business ownership. We use the FastTrac curriculum for training as well as experienced speakers from the communities we serve on a variety of topics. Monthly and quarterly mentoring groups are in the formative stage and there are quarterly networking programs. A circuit-rider concept is developing for the rural counties. We have a computer training lab room at our location in Birmingham where monthly training is held on a variety of topics specific to Microsoft Office programs. Specific workshops will include a four-hour course on Developing Your Selling Skills and a three-hour program on Running Your Home Based Business that is held quarterly. Check out our website for the current program calendar. Continual followup and mentoring provides opportunities for successful

**2 Women's Business Assistance Center, Inc., Women's Business Center of Southern Alabama**

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**Mobile, AL 36693**  
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**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
 First Year Funding: S-2001  
  
 SBA Region: 4  
 Population: Urban

Women's Business Assistance Center, Inc., of Mobile, Alabama serves current and potential women business owners, with an emphasis on socially and economically disadvantaged women.

**Alaska**

**3 WOMEN\$Finances and Assisted Living Home Resource Center of Alaska**

Toni Carlos, Program Director  
 324 E. 5th Avenue  
**Anchorage, AK 99501**  
 Telephone: 907-644-9611  
 Fax: 907-644-9650  
 Email: cbosques@ywcaak.org  
 Web site: www.alaskabizbuilders.org/women\$fund

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
 First Year Funding: S-2002  
  
 SBA Region: 10  
 Population: Urban

WOMEN\$ Fund was established in 1995 as a program of the YWCA and fully implemented in Spring 1996. WOMEN\$Fund is a microenterprise training and microlending program for women entrepreneurs in Anchorage, Alaska. Consistent with the National YWCA's mission to empower women and girls and to eliminate racism, the programs of the YWCA of Anchorage promote independence, knowledge and self-esteem, especially for low-income and minority women. WOMEN\$Fund's mission is to secure financial independence for women through the provision of capital and technical assistance. By providing training classes in entrepreneurship, technical assistance, individual mentoring and seed money for women-owned small businesses, WOMEN\$ Fund seeks to empower low- and moderate-income single-parent and minority women in Anchorage and surrounding Alaska communities for economic self-sufficiency. In late 2002, the WBC changed its name to WOMEN\$finances to compliment the YWCA program changes.

## SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

### American Samoa

#### 4 American Samoa Women's Business Center

Tilani Ilaoa, Project Manager

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Fax: 011/684-699-6580

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Web site:

**Status: Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: R-2000

SBA Region: 9

Population: Rural/Island

The American Samoa WBC provides comprehensive training programs to fit the specific needs of Native American Samoan women who are socially and economically disadvantaged. Specialized training in agribusiness and village-based business is provided to develop entrepreneurial skills and help women market and export their products. Assistance and training focus on childcare and care for the elderly. Other programs include a 12-session course "Starting Your Own Business".

### Arizona

#### 5 Self-Employment Loan Fund, Inc.

Rachel Milne, Program Administrator

1601 N. 7th Street, Suite 340

**Phoenix, AZ 85006**

Telephone: 602-340-8834

Fax: 602-340-8953

Email: milnerachel@hotmail.com

Web site: www.selfloanfund.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: S-2002

SBA Region: 9

Population: Urban/Suburban

The mission of Self-Employment Loan Fund, Inc. (SELF) is to promote the self-sufficiency of low-income individuals, especially women and minorities, by encouraging the growth of microenterprise through training, technical assistance, and access to credit. SELF's community programs are designed to alleviate poverty and increase household income throughout Maricopa County, Arizona. SELF is a Women's Business Center and provides a 'one-stop shop' for women looking to better their economic situation through self-employment opportunities.

#### 6 Tucson-Pima County Women's Business Center

Rebecca Wyant, Project Director

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**Tucson, AZ 85701**

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Email: rwyant@mac-sa.org

Web site: www.acec-az.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: R-2000

SBA Region: 9

Population: Urban/Suburban

The Microbusiness Advancement Center is a non-profit organization dedicated to the economic growth of Southern Arizona and the individual professional development of its clients by providing training, resources, referrals, support and advocacy to those seeking to create, sustain, or grow microbusinesses. MAC offers a variety of programs and services both in English and Spanish, which are designed to assist the small business owner in reaching their entrepreneurial goals: business plan writing, consulting, procurement, informational seminars, microlending, and loan packaging. Although by no means exclusively, MAC targets populations in the southern Arizona markets which are traditional underserved, minority and women entrepreneurs.

## SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

### Arkansas

#### 7 Good and Faith Fund Arkansas Women's Business Development Center (ARWBDC)

Miriam Karanja, Program Director

2304 W. 29th Avenue

**Pine Bluff, AR 71603**

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Fax: 870-535-0741

Email: mkaranja@goodfaithfund.org; ARWBDC@ehbt.com

Web site: www.arenterprise.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: R-1999

SBA Region: 6

Population: Urban/Suburban

The ARWBDC is located in Pine Bluff, "the Gateway to the Delta." The program was funded in September 1999 to provide education, training, technical assistance to women-owned businesses, focusing mainly on those owned by minorities. From 1988 to 1998, over 30 percent of the participants in the Good Faith Fund's entrepreneurship programs were on some form of public assistance. Arkansas has the lowest per capita income in the U.S., and the poverty rate in the Delta is 118 percent above the national average. Business training programs include FastTrac entrepreneurial training, a women's business mentoring program that provides advanced business training for women who have been in business for at least 1 year and helps in developing relationships with mentors, a specialized business training module for childcare providers due to the high demand for childcare in the Delta. Other services include technical assistance, help with business plan writing, business counseling, and special workshops, which include Internet training and money-management seminars. The Center currently serves two cities; Forrest City and Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

### California

#### 8 CHARO Community Development Corporation

Anita Rodriguez, Project Director

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**Los Angeles, CA 90032**

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Web site: www.Charocorp.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: R-2003

SBA Region: 9

Population: Urban

Specializing in providing bilingual/bicultural business services, the CHARO SBA Women's Center provides all services in both English and Spanish to both start-up and existing women-owned enterprises. The Center's mission is to harness resources, provide access to capital, and provide economic opportunities that create wealth and generate jobs. Services include: Entrepreneur Training, Loan Packaging Services, Business and Technical Assistance, Financial Literacy Training, Business Incubator, Small Business Contract Procurement Center and access to the Computer Resource Lab.

#### 9 Inland Empire Women's Business Center

Michelle Skiljan, Project Director

202 E. Airport Drive, Suite 155

**San Bernardino, CA 92408**

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Email: mskiljan@csusb.edu

Web site: Cell 909-322-3445

**Status: Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: R-2003

SBA Region: 9

Population: Urban

The Inland Empire WBC is a program of the Inland Empire Center for Entrepreneurship at California State University San Bernardino. The Center's target area is Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, which is 70 miles inland from the Los Angeles metropolitan area. The two counties served by the IEWBC have a population that is among the fastest growing in the nation serving approximately 3.25 million people and is ranked 11th nationwide in the growth of women-owned firms, employment, and sales from 1987 to 1996. The primary full time office location for the WBC is in partnership with Arrowhead Credit Union (the largest credit union in the County of San Bernardino) and is located in the heart of the business district. Inland Empire WBC provides mentoring, advising, long and short-term training in all areas of business development to existing and aspiring women owned businesses. Services are available in English and Spanish. The WBC targets women in the fields of construction, trades, general contracting and technology.

**SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM**

**California**

**10 National University Women's Business Center of California**

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**San Diego, CA 92108**

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Fax:

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**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: R-2003

SBA Region: 9

Population: Urban

The National University WBC reaches out to women in the San Diego community which includes many nationalities—Hispanic, European, Asian, Middle Eastern, Native American and African American. The WBC reaches out to military veterans, spouses of active military personnel, immigrants working in the farming, child-care providers, persons in the landscaping industry, and San Diego's 18 Indian reservations. The National University WBC offers five areas of support to its clients: 1) training through classes and seminars; 2) counseling and mentoring on a one-to-one basis; 3) networking with its Advisory Board, San Diego businesses, NU's students, faculty and other clients; 4) providing access to resources and information; and 5) helping clients to access training and assistance in obtaining financial resources.

**11 Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center**

Janet Lees, Program Director

275 Fifth Street  
**San Francisco, CA 94103-4120**

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Fax: 415-541-8589

Email: janet@rencenter.org

Web site: www.rencenter.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: R-1999

SBA Region: 9

Population: Urban

Since 1985, Renaissance has been helping economically and socially diverse entrepreneurs, throughout the Bay Area, to start and grow small businesses. Renaissance offers comprehensive small business training and support services for businesses in all stages of development and all industries. Programs and services include: Training Classes (Start Your Own Business, Business Planning and BusinessAction Planning), a Business Incubator, a Financing Resource Center program providing loan packaging and consultation, Topic Specific Workshops, Access to Markets and Computer and Internet Training. Renaissance has created a dynamic network of entrepreneurs; 60% of Renaissance graduates report doing business with each other.

**12 West Company - Fort Bragg Center**

Joy Calonico, Project Director  
306 East Redwood Avenue, Suite 2

**Fort Bragg, CA 95437**

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Fax: 707-964-7576

Email: joy@westcompany.org

Web site: www.westcompany.org

**Status: SUB**  
First Year Funding:

SBA Region: 9

Population: Rural

WEST Company serves micro-enterprise owners in rural Northern California, targeting low-income women and minorities through its centers in Fort Bragg and Ukiah. WEST Company provides business planning and management assistance at every stage of business ownership from feasibility through expansion. Services include business-plan training, individual consulting, access to capital through individual microloans, business-network formation, and assistance with business applications using

## SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

### California

#### 13 West Company - Ukiah Center

Valerie Plummer, Program Manager

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Email: Valerie@westcompany.org

Web site: www.westcompany.org

WEST Company serves micro-enterprise owners in rural Northern California, targeting low-income women and minorities through its centers in Ukiah and Fort Bragg. WEST Company provides business planning and management assistance at every stage of business ownership from feasibility through expansion. Services include business-plan training, individual consulting, access to capital through individual microloans, business- network formation, and assistance with business applications using

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: S-2000

SBA Region: 9

Population: Rural

#### 14 Women's Economic Venture of Santa Barbara

Marsha Bailey, Executive Director

333 S. Salinas St.

**Santa Barbara, CA 93103**

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Web site: www.wevonline.org

Established in 1991, Women's Economic Ventures or WEV (pronounced "weave") provides training, technical assistance, mentoring, Individual Development Accounts (IDAs) and loans of up to \$100,000 to woman-owned businesses in Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties in the Central Coast region of California. WEV's 14-week "Self-Employment Training" course prepares clients to launch or grow a business enterprise. WEV provides ongoing support for growing businesses through Mastermind Groups, W! (a membership networking organization), workshops, individual business counseling, and Micromentor, an online mentoring project. WEV licenses its training curriculum to organizations locally and throughout the United States. WEV has offices in Santa Barbara, Camarillo and Santa Maria, California. All services are provided in English and Spanish.

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: R-2003

SBA Region: 9

Population: Urban

#### 15 Women's Initiative for Self Employment (WI)

Catherine Riedel, Program Manager

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Dpiraino@womensinitiative.org

Web site: www.womensinitiative.org

The Women's Initiative provides business training and technical assistance in English and Spanish to low-income women in the San Francisco Bay Area. The English -language program consists of a two-week business assessment workshop, a 14-week business skills workshop and a four-week workshop on writing a business plan. The Spanish language program parallels the English but is in modular format. WI also offers business support services, including one-to-one consultations, peer networking,

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: S-2000

SBA Region: 9

Population: Urban

**SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM**

**Colorado**

**16 Mi Casa Resource Center for Women, Inc**

Agnes Carroll, Project Director

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**Denver, CO 80223**

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Fax: 303-595-0422

Email: acarroll@micasadenvr.org

Web site: www.micasadenvr.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: S-2000

SBA Region: 8

Population: Urban

Founded in 1976, Mi Casa Resource Center for Women provides quality employment and education services that promote economic independence for low-income, predominantly Latina women and youth. Services include educational counseling, job-readiness and job-search training, life-skills development, job placement, and non-traditional and computer-skills training. The Women's Business Center began in 1990 because of Mi Casa's belief that self-employment was a viable way for a woman to achieve self-sufficiency. Entrepreneurial training is provided through either the "Evening Entrepreneurial Training Program" or the "Day Entrepreneurial Program." An entrepreneurial training course, "Mi Negocio," is offered in Spanish. Workbooks were developed for the courses, in English and Spanish. The books were published and have been sold since 2000. Mi Casa offers train-the-trainer opportunities to other microenterprise organizations. In all the courses, individuals learn how to start a business and develop a business plan, with microloans available to program graduates. The Business Development Program Financial Resources Project offers Individual Development Accounts for business start-up or expansion. The center is an SBA Pre-Qual Lender and has an exclusive opportunity for clients in offering SBA Community Express Loans. Financial Literacy classes are conducted, as well as train-the-trainer classes. Procurement training and technical assistance became a focus in 2002. In 2002 an on-line business directory, "Let's Shop" was designed and implemented and is featured on the Mi Casa website.

**17 Mi Casa Resource Center for Women, Inc.**

Marta Madrid, Program Manager

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**Pueblo, CO 81005**

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Fax: 719 542 1006

Email: mmadrid@micasadenvr.org

Web site: www.micasadenvr.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: R-1999

SBA Region: 8

Population: Suburban

Founded in 1976, Mi Casa Resource Center for Women provides quality employment and education services that promote economic independence for low-income, predominantly Latina women and youth. Services include educational counseling, job-readiness and job-search training, life-skills development, job placement, and non-traditional and computer-skills training. The Women's Business Center began in 1990 because of Mi Casa's belief that self-employment was a viable way for a woman to achieve self-sufficiency. Entrepreneurial training is provided through either the "Evening Entrepreneurial Training Program" or the "Day Entrepreneurial Program." An entrepreneurial training course, "Mi Negocio," is offered in Spanish. Workbooks were developed for the courses, in English and Spanish. The books were published and have been sold since 2000. Mi Casa offers train-the-trainer opportunities to other microenterprise organizations. In all the courses, individuals learn how to start a business and develop a business plan, with microloans available to program graduates. The Business Development Program Financial Resources Project offers Individual Development Accounts for business start-up or expansion. The center is an SBA Pre-Qual Lender and has an exclusive opportunity for clients in offering SBA Community Express Loans. Financial Literacy classes are conducted, as well as train-the-trainer classes. Procurement training and technical assistance became a focus in 2002. In 2002 an on-line business directory, "Let's Shop" was designed and implemented and is featured on the Mi Casa website.

**SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM**

**Connecticut**

**18 SBA's Office of Women's Business Ownership (OWBO-CT) of The Entrepreneurial Center at Hartford College for Women of the University of Hartford**

Laura Knott-Twine, Grant Director

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**Hartford, CT 06105**

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Fax: 860-768-5622

Email: knotttwinn@hartford.edu; sbaowboct@hartford.edu

Web site: www.hartford.edu/sbaowbo

**Status: Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: R-1999

SBA Region: 1

Population: Urban/Suburban

This program serves potential startup and established business owners throughout Connecticut, with special emphasis on women. The Center works in collaboration with the Connecticut Development Authority. Each spring and fall, The Entrepreneurial Center offers a series of 2-part Self-Assessment Workshops and conducts a 16-week Comprehensive Small Business Training Program. The Connecticut Development Authority provides assistance in accessing capital through their statewide URBANK Entrepreneurial Loan Program. By collaborating with statewide economic development organizations, The Center provides technical assistance throughout the life cycles of their businesses for all individuals who have received their Certificate of Completion of the Comprehensive Small Business Training Program. This program is the first of its kind in the nation, linking a state agency, a private entity (i.e., university) and a nonprofit in a formal partnership.

**19 SBA's Office of Women's Business Ownership (OWBO-CT) of The Entrepreneurial Center at Hartford College for Women of the University of Hartford**

Jean Blake-Jackson, Director

955 Connecticut Ave. Suite 2103  
**Bridgeport, CT 06607**

Telephone: 203-382-5582

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Email: blakejack@hartford.edu; Entrectr@hartford.edu; sbaowboct@mail.hartford.edu

Web site: www.entrepreneurialctr.org

**Status: SUB**

First Year Funding:

SBA Region: 1

Population: Urban

This program serves potential startup and established business owners throughout Connecticut, with special emphasis on women. The Center works in collaboration with the Connecticut Development Authority. Each spring and fall, The Entrepreneurial Center offers a series of 2-part Self-Assessment Workshops and conducts a 16-week Comprehensive Small Business Training Program. The Connecticut Development Authority provides assistance in accessing capital through their statewide URBANK Entrepreneurial Loan Program. By collaborating with statewide economic development organizations, The Center provides technical assistance throughout the life cycles of their businesses for all individuals who have received their Certificate of Completion of the Comprehensive Small Business Training Program. This program is the first of its kind in the nation, linking a state agency, a private entity (i.e., university) and a nonprofit in a formal partnership.

**20 Women's Business Development Center (WBDC)**

Fran Pastore, President/CEO

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**Stamford, CT 06901**

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Fax: 203-353-1084

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Web site: www.ctwbdc.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: R-1999

SBA Region: 1

Population: Suburban

The Women's Business Development Center is a not-for-profit organization, established in 1998, that promotes economic development through entrepreneurship. The WBDC offers comprehensive business education and increased access to financial resources as essential business tools to economic independence. The WBDC offers myriad programs to meet the needs of aspiring, emerging and established entrepreneurs. One-to-one counseling, long-term training, workshops and symposiums are offered on virtually every aspect of establishing and growing a small business.

## SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

### District of Columbia

#### 21 Women's Business Center, Inc.

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**Washington, DC 20036**

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Fax: 202-785-4110

Email: ppompei@womensbusinesscenter.org

Web site: www.womensbusinesscenter.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: S-2001

SBA Region: 3

Population: Urban

The Women's Business Center of the Captial Area is located in downtown, DC. The center offers the following menu of programs: "Introduction to Business Ownership," "Up and Running," "Managing a Business with Accountability," "Doing Business with the Government," "The Business Council," "The Roundtable," "The Business Laboratory," and "The Bottom Line." Through active mentoring programs, the center reaches a diverse population at all levels of business ownership.

### Georgia

#### 22 Greater Atlanta Women's Business Center Project

Paola Diaz, Project Director

241 Peachtree Street N.W. 2nd Floor

**Atlanta, GA 30303**

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Fax: 404-965-3938

Email: paola@graspnet.org; mreed@graspnet.org

Web site: www.graspnet.org/women.html

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: R-1999

SBA Region: 4

Population: Urban

The Atlanta Women's Business Center (AWBC) opened its doors on November 15, 1999 and has seen a steady stream of aspiring entrepreneurs and existing business owners come in to help themselves to the array of services and resources the Center has to offer. The Center's mission is to increase the number, size and capacity of women-owned businesses in the Atlanta area. The Center offers entrepreneurial training, business consulting, Micro-loans, SBA Loan guarantee assistance, mentoring, networking, access to new market and specialized workshops on various topics such as, the basics of starting a business, developing a business plan; marketing, sources of business capital; growth strategies, and technology. AWBC receives funding from the Small Business Administration and GRASP Enterprises (our parent organization). Each year we offer a Women Taking Charge (WTQ) Conference. WTC is an interactive, day-long workshop designed to provide women with the tools and resources they need to help them achieve greater success in managing, growing and expanding their businesses. The Center is open to everyone weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and by appointment on the 2nd Saturday of each month.

### Hawaii

#### 23 Hawaii Women's Business Center

Beverly Cabrera, Executive Director

1041 Nuuanu Ave., Ste. A

**Honolulu, HI 96817**

Telephone: 808-522-8136 x227

Fax: 808-522-7494

Email: Info@HWBC.org; ExecutiveDirector@HWBC.org

Web site: www.HWBC.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: R-1999

SBA Region: 9

Population: Urban/Island

If you are looking to become economically self-sufficient through entrepreneurship, you have come to the right place! The Hawaii Women's Business Center (HWBC) was created to support women interested in starting and growing their business and to assist in the economic development and diversification of Hawaii. HWBC provides technical assistance and support for women in business through one-on-one counseling, business management training, networking, Business Brown Bag Lunch Series, and quarterly women business owner evening roundtable events. Start your tour into the business world through our website at www.HWBC.org. Explore the wide variety of workshops and programs that can help you sharpen your business skills, sign up for our evening orientation session and receive an overview of all the business resources available to you through HWBC. Our center is located within the Small Business Resource Center (SBRC), along with SBA's Business Information Counseling Center (BICC). Within the center, a small computer lab is available to clients to facilitate the development of your business plan with the use of Business Plan Pro software, Research through the internet and develop new technology skills. The center also offers other print resource materials, entrepreneurial guides and periodicals. Visit our center and join other women business owners who are changing and growing Hawaii's economy.

## SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

### Idaho

#### 24 Entrepreneurial Resources, Inc.

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**Boise, ID 83707**

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Email: [frontdesk@wemswbc.org](mailto:frontdesk@wemswbc.org); [exd@wemswbc.org](mailto:exd@wemswbc.org)

Web site: [www.wemswbc.org](http://www.wemswbc.org)

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: R-1999

SBA Region: 10

Population: Rural/Urban

The WBC is the first program in Idaho to serve as a focal point for women's economic improvement opportunities through business ownership. Its services target women entrepreneurs wanting to launch a business; expand and improve an existing business; purchase an existing business; pursue or expand a home-based business. In addition to traditional business counseling, the WBC offers training seminars and workshops providing insightful information affecting business owners at every stage of business ownership. The WBC staff of professionals and volunteers serve women throughout the state, with special outreach to socially and economically disadvantaged clients, and the assistance of SBA resource partners: the Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE), statewide Small Business Development Centers, and the Business Information Center located in Boise. Our mission is to create women business leaders by providing ongoing business training, mentoring, coaching and support.

### Illinois

#### 25 Women's Business Development Center

Kelly Smith, Project Director  
8 South Michigan Avenue  
**Chicago, IL 60603**

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Email: [ksmith@wbdc.org](mailto:ksmith@wbdc.org); [jlopez@wbdc.org](mailto:jlopez@wbdc.org)

Web site: [www.wbdc.org](http://www.wbdc.org)

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: S-2003

SBA Region: 5

Population: Urban

Founded in 1986, the Women's Business Development Center serves women business owners in the greater Chicago area, and advocates for women business owners nationwide. The WBDC has helped establish women's business centers since 1989 in Illinois, Ohio, Florida, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts. The WBDC provides a variety of entrepreneurial training courses and seminars: one-to-one counseling; financial assistance and loan packaging for microloans; the SBA Loan Prequalification Program, and other SBA and government loan programs, technology, e-business and equity finance programs; WBE certification, and private- and public-sector procurement; an annual conference and Women's Buyers Mart; and extensive advocacy and policy development for women's economic and business-development issues. A strategic alliance with private and public partners will extend WBDC's reach to the most needy communities. The WBDC also provides services through a local bank's "Wheels of Business" van, which travels to low-income neighborhoods and offers training and counseling.

### Indiana

#### 26 Women's Enterprise, A Program of the Fort Wayne's Women's Bureau

Leslie Alford, Director  
3521 Lake Ave., Suite 1  
**Fort Wayne, IN 46805-5533**

Telephone: 260-424-7977  
Fax: 260-426-7576

Email: [info@womensenterprise.org](mailto:info@womensenterprise.org);  
[bojohnson@womensenterprise.org](mailto:bojohnson@womensenterprise.org);  
[lealford@womensenterprise.org](mailto:lealford@womensenterprise.org);

Web site: [www.womensenterprise.org](http://www.womensenterprise.org)

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: R-1999

SBA Region: 5

Population: Urban/Suburban

Women's Enterprise is the first and only Women's Business Center in the State of Indiana. Our mission is to promote economic development through entrepreneurial assistance and advocacy for women. Our vision is to provide women, including those who are economically and/or socially disadvantaged, with the knowledge and expertise to make informed decisions and actions to improve their financial positions in life. Counseling, mentoring and training is offered in the following areas: General Business, Marketing and Advertising, Market Research & Analysis, Financing/Lending, Accounting/Budgeting, Legal, Internet/E-Commerce, Insurance, Starting a Not-For-Profit Business, Bookkeeping/Payroll, Commercial Real Estate, Business Plan Software, Human Resources/Personnel, and Financial Planning. All services are offered in English and Spanish.

## SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

### Iowa

#### 27 The Iowa Women's Business Center

Lara Moore, Director of Microenterprise

910 23rd Avenue

**Coralville, IA 52241**

Telephone: 319-338-2331

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Email: lamoore@ised.org

Web site: www.ised.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: S-2003

SBA Region: 7

Population: Rural

The Iowa Women's Business Center is part of a consortium of all the major business-development organizations in Iowa and serves every level of woman business owner across the state in a unified and intensive way. The consortium, which has locations in six cities plus 15 SBDC sub-centers and a Web site, is led by the nonprofit ISED, which has a long history of providing self-employment training programs, especially to the socially and economically disadvantaged.

### Kansas

#### 28 Kansas Women's Business Center

Sandy Licata, President

8527 Bluejacket Street

**Lenexa, KS 66214**

Telephone: 913-492-5922

Fax: 913-888-6928

Email: slicata@kansaswbc.com

Web site: www.kansaswbc.com

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: R-2000

SBA Region: 7

Population: Urban/Rural

The Kansas Women's Business Center (KWBC) provides services to advance the success of women business owners, resulting in a stronger entrepreneurial economy. Serving clients statewide, the KWBC provides access to capital, education, and resources to women entrepreneurs at every stage of business development through business counseling, seminars, classes, & workshops, networking and mentoring. As a program of the Enterprise Center of Johnson County, which itself operates as a business incubator in the high business growth area of Johnson County, Kansas, the KWBC offers a host of services designed to enhance a client's entrepreneurial and general business knowledge. Training and assistance is available in areas such as finance, marketing, business management, technology and government procurement. While services are open to everyone, scholarships target socially and economically disadvantaged women. Mentoring roundtables meet monthly for peer to peer and expert counseling in various business functions. KWBC training programs include FastTrac NewVenture, FastTrac Planning, STARTing a Profitable Small Business, Listening to Your Business, Out of Your Head and Into Business, and Fast Forward Strategic Planning. The center also hosts a weekly radio show, Enterprising Women, presenting creative ways to help entrepreneurs start and grow their companies.

### Kentucky

#### 29 Women's Enterprise Institute/Midway College Center for Women, Diversity & Leadership

Nicole Bryan, Director

512 East Stephens Street

**Midway, KY 40347**

Telephone: 859-846-5800

Fax: 859-846-5872

Email: info@weimidway.org; nbryan@midway.edu;

Web site: www.weimidway.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: R-1999

SBA Region: 4

Population: Suburban

As the only SBA-funded women's business center in Kentucky, the Women's Enterprise Institute reaches beyond the Lexington area, with outreach through collaborative partners in western and eastern Kentucky. The college works in close coordination with local agencies to reach out to underserved populations with a special minority businesswomen's program. WEI offers workshops and classes on Internet, management, marketing, and sources of capital. It plans to become an SBA Loan Prequalification intermediary by the end of the first grant year. With special emphasis on support and networking for women, "Women's Enterprise Wednesday" roundtables are regularly scheduled, with successful businesswomen offering lunchtime training. Online projects include development of extensive businesswomen's resources, both national and statewide, and a businesswomen's library. WEI coordinates with other women's colleges that have SBA-funded women's business centers, such as the University of the Sacred Heart in Puerto Rico, to employ innovative, coordinated approaches to serving the diverse population of women in Kentucky.

## SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

### Louisiana

#### 30 Urban League of Greater New Orleans (ULGNO) Women's Business Resource Center

Patrice A. Williams-Smith, Executive Director  
2322 Canal Street, Suite 100 New Orleans  
New Orleans, LA 70119  
Telephone: 504-620-9650  
Fax: 504-620-9659  
Email: paw\_s@bellsouth.net  
Web site:

**Status:** **Currently Funded Center**  
**First Year Funding:** R-2001  
**SBA Region:** 6  
**Population:** Urban

The New Orleans metropolitan area, the target area of the WBC, is home to 24% single-female headed households, 62% African American and 53% of households are described as low income. Among the services they will provide are: the organization of at least one trade association of home-based women entrepreneurs, i.e., childcare providers, to maximize their profitability and management capabilities; development of a micro-business loan fund with the participation of at least one bank; seminars with such topics as "So You Think You Can Cook--Try Catering," "e-commerce From Your Home," and "Getting Government Contracts." Long-term training will use the NxLevel curriculum. Basic etiquette, dining out, gift giving, accepting invitations, saying thank you will also be a part of their training.

### Maine

#### 31 Coastal Enterprises Inc. (CEI) Women's Business Center

Ellen Golden, Senior Program Officer  
7 N. Chestnut Street  
Augusta, ME 04330  
Telephone: 207-882-7552  
Fax: 207-882-7308  
Email: efg@ceimaine.org  
Web site: www.ceimaine.org

**Status:** **Currently Funded Center**  
**First Year Funding:** S-2000  
**SBA Region:** 1  
**Population:** Rural

Coastal Enterprises, Inc., is a private, nonprofit community-development corporation that provides financing and technical assistance to Maine businesses, which in turn provide income, ownership or employment opportunities to low-income people. The Women's Business Center at CEI provides training, management assistance and access to credit to new and existing women business owners across the state. The Center also provides specialized assistance in business uses of the Internet and E-commerce. For existing business owners, the Center provides opportunities for networking, peer mentoring and support for the development of Advisory Boards. Center participants benefit from CEI's capacity to provide access to capital through its SBA

### Maryland

#### 32 Women Entrepreneurs of Baltimore, Inc. (WEB)

Amanda Crook Zinn, Chief Executive Officer  
1118 Light Street, Suite 202  
Baltimore, MD 21231  
Telephone: 410-727-4921  
Fax: 410-727-4989  
Email: aczinn@webinc.org  
Web site: www.webinc.org

**Status:** **Currently Funded Center**  
**First Year Funding:** S-2002  
**SBA Region:** 3  
**Population:** Urban

Women Entrepreneurs of Baltimore, a non-profit organization, is an entrepreneurial training program designed to help economically disadvantaged women become self-sufficient through business development. The main components of the WEB Program include: an intensive, three-month business-skills training course; mentoring; financing strategy development; community networking; resource sharing; professional business consultation; Internet training; and government certification and procurement, and information and referral services.

**SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM**

**Massachusetts**

**33 Center for Women & Enterprise Inc. (CWE)**

Allison Devore, Program Manager  
 Renaissance Park, 1135 Tremont Street, Suite 480  
**Boston, MA 02120**  
 Telephone: 617-536-0700 x232  
 Fax: 617-536-7373  
 Email: adevore@cweboston.org  
 Web site: www.cweonline.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
 First Year Funding: S-2000

SBA Region: 1  
 Population: Urban

The Center for Women & Enterprise, is a nonprofit educational organization whose mission is to empower women to become economically self-sufficient and prosperous through entrepreneurship. The first center of its kind in Massachusetts, CWE provides courses, workshops, roundtables, one-to-one consulting, and loan-packaging assistance to women who seek to start and/or grow their own businesses. While services are open to everyone, scholarships target low-income women.

**34 Center for Women & Enterprise, Inc. (CWE)**

Jennifer Chase Williams, Program Manager  
 50 Elm Street, 2nd Floor  
**Worcester, MA 01609**  
 Telephone: 508-363-2300 x 202  
 Fax: 508-363-2323  
 Email: jwilliams@cweworcester.org  
 Web site: www.cweonline.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
 First Year Funding: R-2001

SBA Region: 1  
 Population: Urban

CWE offers assistance to women business owners in several formations: -Destination Success, which concentrates workshops into a half day long event, allowing business owners to choose from specific workshops on relevant topics in a single day. - Information sessions on subjects such as pros and cons of owning your business, e-commerce and internet marketing, finance Q&A, procurement and others as determined by client demand. - Facilitated long-term groups that help women with start up (First Step Fast Trac, Community Entrepreneurs Program and Business Plan Workshop) or growth and stabilization (WNET-roundtable mentoring) of their businesses. One-on-one counseling through CWE staff and resource partners that focuses on loan packaging, procurement, and finance issues as well as a range of marketing and management issues as needed.

**Michigan**

**35 Center for Empowerment and Economic Development (CEED)**

Michelle Richards, Executive Director  
 2002 Hogback Road, Suite 12  
**Ann Arbor, MI 48105**  
 Telephone: 734-677-1400  
 Fax: 734-677-1465  
 Email: mrichards@wwnet.net  
 Web site: www.miceed.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
 First Year Funding: S-2000

SBA Region: 5  
 Population: Urban

The Center for Empowerment & Economic Development (CEED) provides business programs and services to assist women and minorities to become economically self-sufficient through business development. CEED's WISE Program provides a comprehensive package of business plan development training and counseling. CEED is an SBA microloan intermediary for Southeastern Michigan, providing loans ranging from \$ 500 - \$ 25,000. CEED is also Michigan's SBA Prequalification Loan Program intermediary, providing loan assistance to women and minorities seeking SBA guaranteed loans up to \$ 250,000. CEED's Michigan Women's Business Council offers certification and procurement services to women owned businesses.

## SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

### Michigan

#### 36 Grand Rapids Opportunities for Women

Rita VanderVen, Executive Director

25 Sheldon Street, SE Suite 210

**Grand Rapids, MI 49503**

Telephone: 616-458-3404

Fax: 616-458-6557

Email: [rvanderven@growbusiness.org](mailto:rvanderven@growbusiness.org)

Web site: [www.growbusiness.org](http://www.growbusiness.org)

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: R-2001

SBA Region: 5

Population: Suburban/Rural

GROW offers Business Readiness, Start-Up, and Business Plan classes and Economic self-sufficiency training and asset building through its Matched Savings program plus counseling, workshop and networking opportunities. GROW is actively involved in providing training for home-based day-care providers in business management and setting up financial management systems. Established businesses participate in the Upclose seminars on topics such as certification, procurement and networking.

#### 37 Women's Business Development Center @ Detroit Entrepreneurship Institute, Inc. (WBDC)

Monique Maddox, Vice President of Operations

455 W. Fort Street, 4th Floor

**Detroit, MI 48226**

Telephone: 313-961-8426

Fax: 313-961-8831

Email: [hakiema@msn.com](mailto:hakiema@msn.com); [deibus@aol.com](mailto:deibus@aol.com);

[cmcclelland@deibus.org](mailto:cmcclelland@deibus.org)

Web site: [www.deibus.org](http://www.deibus.org)

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: R-1999

SBA Region: 5

Population: Urban

Detroit Entrepreneurship Institute, Inc. serves businesses owned by individuals with low-to-moderate incomes and others who are seeking self-sufficiency through entrepreneurship. DEI offers two long-term (11 -week) classes for current or potential business owners. The Self-Employment Initiative is open to individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families through the Michigan Family Independence Agency, and the Enterprise Development Initiative is open to low-to-moderate income individuals, dislocated workers, individuals with disabilities and others. DEI offers a business computer center, business reference library, graphics & print department, employment specialist and personal development consultant. Through the Women's Enterprise Center (WEC), DEI is able to further provide Internet training, economic-literacy classes, industry-specific consultants, mentorships and networking, and conference opportunities to women who are current or potential business owners and have successfully completed one of the DEI business-skills training programs. The WEC also offers Internet training and economic-literacy training to all women business owners in Southeastern Michigan.

### Minnesota

#### 38 Minnesota Women's Business Center (The People Connection)

Michelle Landsverk, Project Director

226 East 1st Street

**Fosston, MN 56542**

Telephone: 218-435-2134

Fax: 218-435-1347

Email: [michelle@mnwbc.org](mailto:michelle@mnwbc.org)

Web site: [www.mnwbc.org](http://www.mnwbc.org)

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: S-2000

SBA Region: 5

Population: Rural

The Minnesota Women's Business Center's mission statement is: "Empowering Women Through Entrepreneurship." Founded in 1998, the MWBC is dedicated to promoting economic development by advancing entrepreneurship in the region and providing resources to assist women in starting, maintaining and growing their business. Among the many services provided are training, consulting, business incubation and hosting business seminars throughout northwestern Minnesota. For a more detailed description of our program, please visit our website at [www.mnwbc.org](http://www.mnwbc.org), and visit our virtual incubator at

## SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

### Minnesota

#### 39 WomenVenture

Christine Pigsley, Program Director  
2324 University Avenue West, Suite 200  
**St. Paul, MN 55114**  
Telephone: 651-646-3808  
Fax: 651-641-7223  
Email: cpigsley@womenventure.org  
Web site: www.womenventure.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: R-2000

SBA Region: 5  
Population: Urban

WomenVenture's mission is to assist women in securing their own economic success and prosperity. This empowerment occurs through consulting and training in a variety of areas: business development, career transitioning, training for women to enter non-traditional occupations (which provide better lifetime earnings) and education and mentoring of young women around economic issues. The WomenVenture Business Center provides technical assistance to women entrepreneurs through one-on-one consulting, business-planning seminars and workshops plus advanced business training through the College of St. Catherine distance learning modules. The Center is an intermediary for the SBA Loan Prequalification and Microloan programs, providing microloans from \$200 to \$25,000. Please visit the WomenVenture Web site.

### Mississippi

#### 40 MACE Women's Business Center Training and Technical Assistance

William Brown, Director  
119 South Theobald Street  
**Greenville, MS 38701**  
Telephone: 662 335 3523  
Fax: 662-334-2939  
Email: 'mace03@bellsouth.net;macetop@bellsouth.net  
Web site:

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: S-2002

SBA Region: 4  
Population: Rural

Mississippi Action for Community Education Inc. (MACE) administers the Mississippi Women's Business Center. MACE has been in the forefront of economic-development in the Delta for the past thirty-five years. Its target customers are disadvantaged persons and under-served communities in one of the most economically depressed areas in the country. The goal of the MACE Women's Business Center is consistent with the organization's mission: "Helping people to help themselves." The WBC educates women on all aspects of business development, including principles of business management, social responsibility and how to build wealth consistent with the cultural dynamics of the delta. We offer small business training, on-going technical assistance, one-on-one counseling to start-up and existing business owners. The WBC utilizes MACE's teleconferencing centers to extend our services to rural/isolated communities that are otherwise unable to access training and technical assistance.

### Missouri

#### 41 Grace Hill's Women's Business Center

Lynette Watson, Director  
2600 Hadley Street  
**St. Louis, MO 63106**  
Telephone: 314-539-9840  
Fax: 314-539-9666  
Email: lynettew@gracehill.org; carlab@gracehill.org;  
lynnes@gracehill.org  
Web site: www.gracehill.org/wbc

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: R-1999

SBA Region: 7  
Population: Urban

The Grace Hill Women's Business Center (GHWBC) is located in the city of St. Louis. The project's comprehensive regional scope includes St. Louis City and three counties. The WBC strives to be a centralized service stop for women, mainly African-American, to start or expand their small businesses. Long-term training for start-up and business expansion is provided in cooperation with the local Small Business Development Center (SBDC). In addition, the Grace Hill WBC offers one-on-one counseling, marketing and procurement assistance, computer training, loan packaging and micro-lending. A focal part of the center is outreach and marketing primarily to low and moderate income women who are socially and/or economically disadvantaged. Grace Hill Women's Business Center is housed within a business incubator and provides direct support for the incubator patrons. The center's staff is committed to partnering the assets and expertise of Grace Hill's WBC and the Small Business Administration to positively impact women in our community.

## SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

### Missouri

#### 42 Missouri Women's Business Center (WBC at GO Connection, Inc.)

Alan Corbert, Director

4747 Troost Avenue

**Kansas City, MO 64110**

Telephone: 816-235-6146

Fax: 816-235-6177

Email: acorbet@goconnection.org;

Web site: www.goconnection.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: R-2000

SBA Region: 7

Population: Urban

The Western Missouri Women's Business Center is located in the heart of Kansas City, Missouri, and serves the Missouri side of the Kansas City Metro as well as western Missouri. The Center's mission is to provide women entrepreneurs with the training, education, advising, and access to funding they need to build financially sound businesses---at every stage of development.

The Center provides long-term training workshops, one-on-one advising, access to capital (through our Microloan program), mentoring programs, outreach seminars, and networking opportunities for our clients. The Center has as its goal, to create an equal opportunity for the success of all women entrepreneurs by providing special services for low- to moderate-income women and women who are socially and economically disadvantaged. This includes the "First Step FastTrac" training program offered three times a year, in addition to a Family Child Care Entrepreneurial program. Computers are available for training sessions as well as website and e-commerce tips. The Center's staff is dedicated to providing the highest quality of service to its clients and the community in order to enhance economic growth and personal achievement.

### Montana

#### 43 Business Resource Center (BRC)

Joe Bower, Director

347 North Last Chance Gulch

**Helena, MT 59601**

Telephone: 406-443-0800

Fax: 406-442-2745

Email: jbower@ctibrc.org

Web site: www.ctibrc.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: S-2001

SBA Region: 8

Population: Rural

The mission of the Business Resource Center is to provide financial, management, marketing, and technical training assistance to small business owners with a focus on women and minorities. The Business Resource Center serves start-up and growing businesses in Lewis and Clark, Jefferson, Broadwater and Meagher counties. Confidential business counseling is available for help in writing business plans, cash flow projections or other business matters. The Business Resource Center offers classes each quarter on topics of interest to the small business owner, creating a stronger, better informed business community. The ultimate Goal of the Business Resource Center and its Host agency the Career Training Institute is to partner the workforce and business

### Nebraska

#### 44 Rural Enterprise Assistance Project (REAP)

Glennis McClure, WBC Director

145 Main Street, PO Box 136

**Lyons, NE 68038-0136**

Telephone: 402-645-3296

Fax: 402-645-3296

Email: reapwbc@diodecom.net

Web site: www.cfra.org/reap

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: R-2001

SBA Region: 7

Population: Rural

The Women's Business Center in Nebraska is a program of the Center for Rural Affairs' Rural Enterprise Assistance Project (REAP). REAP's WBC is the first and only SBA funded Women's Business Center in the state of Nebraska. REAP is committed to strengthening rural communities through small, self-employed business development assistance. REAP's Women's Business Center project is a center without "walls", using REAP's infrastructure with business specialists located throughout the state to deliver the WBC services to rural small businesses. REAP's Women's Business Center will serve existing and start-up self-employed women across rural Nebraska, improve the accessibility of REAP's basic business training across Nebraska for women, provide Internet training for women in business on a regional basis, participate in an on-line Women's Business Center (OWBC) co-sponsored by SBA, increase REAP's outreach to provide training, technical assistance, networking and lending, targeting socially and economically disadvantaged women through our existing infrastructure.

## SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

### Nevada

#### 45 Nevada Micro-Enterprise Development Corporation

Anna Siefert, Project Director

113 West Plumb Lane

**Reno, NV 89505**

Telephone: 702-734-3555

Fax:

Email: [asiefert@4microbiz.org](mailto:asiefert@4microbiz.org)

Web site: [www.4microbiz.org](http://www.4microbiz.org)

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: R-2003

SBA Region: 0

Population:

Our Mission: To enhance the economic self-sufficiency and quality of life of low to moderate-income individuals through entrepreneurial training, technical assistance and access to loans for new and expanding businesses throughout the State of

### New Hampshire

#### 46 Women's Business Center, Inc.

Ellen Fineberg, Executive Director

150 Greenleaf Avenue, # 8

**Portsmouth, NH 03801**

Telephone: 603-430-2892

Fax: 603-430-3706

Email: [info@womenbiz.org](mailto:info@womenbiz.org)

Web site: [www.womenbiz.org](http://www.womenbiz.org)

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: S-2002

SBA Region: 1

Population: Rural

The Women's Business Center, a New Hampshire-based nonprofit, promotes women's business ownership as a means to maximize personal potential and achieve economic independence. The New Hampshire Women's Business Center, established in 1995, supports entrepreneurial women as they begin and grow their businesses. The NH WBC grew out of a series of seminars held in the 1990s to help women start their own businesses. The NH WBC is physically located in Portsmouth, New Hampshire but offers programs and services across the region of southeastern New Hampshire, northern Massachusetts and southern Maine.

In 1997, the NH WBC was fortunate to be among the women's business centers across the US to be chosen to receive five years of support and funding from the U.S. Small Business Administration's Office of Women's Business Ownership. In 2002, the NH WBC was again chose to receive SBA funding for sustainability. This partial funding ensures that the WBC has the ability to work with women at all economic levels.

The WBC accomplishes its mission by providing:

- ? Educational Programming
- ? Advocacy
- ? Networking
- ? Counseling
- ? Mentorship

The NH WBC provides classes and courses to help women who are starting and growing their businesses. The NH WBC programs provide access to information, networking and skill development opportunities. For example, our intensive course "Business Development for Women" take potential women business owners through business, financial and marketing planning to establish the knowledge and skills to start or grow their business. Check out the "Program Calendar" section of our website at [www.womenbiz.org](http://www.womenbiz.org) to see the most recent programs and opportunities to take advantage of. Participation in NH Women's Business Center activities is open to anyone regardless of race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, physical ability, or familial status.

**SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM**

**New Jersey**

**47 NJ Assoc. of Women Business Owners Women's Business Center**

Penni Nafus, Director	<b>Status:</b>	<b>Currently Funded Center</b>
White Horse Commercial Park, 127 US Highway 206, Suite	First Year Funding:	R-1999
<b>Hamilton, NJ 08610</b>		
Telephone: 609-581-2220	SBA Region:	2
Fax: 609-581-6749	Population:	Urban/Suburban
Email: pnafus@njawbo.org		
Web site: www.njawbo.org		

NJAWBO's Women's Business Center of New Jersey specializes in entrepreneurial training for women business owners. Classes include "Introduction to Quick Books," "Are You an Entrepreneur?," "Start Right!," "The Power of Good credit for Entrepreneurs", "Profit Savvy," "Marketing Magic," and "Doing Business with the Government." Available throughout the state, WBC classes address the needs of neophytes, as well as seasoned business owners, helping them maximize business growth and profitability, learn management methods, improve business skills, and build support, referral and resource networks. Individual

**New Mexico**

**48 Women's Economic Self-Sufficiency Team (WESST) Corp.**

Clare Zurawski, Regional Manager	<b>Status:</b>	<b>SUB</b>
1332-B Gusdorf Road	First Year Funding:	
<b>Taos, NM 87571</b>		
Telephone: 866-758-3099x2	SBA Region:	6
Fax: 505-751-1575	Population:	Suburban/Rural
Email: czurawski@wesstartisans.com		
Web site: www.wesstartisans.com		

The Women's Economic Self-Sufficiency Team was incorporated in 1988 to assist low-income and minority women throughout New Mexico. WESST Corp. clients typically need long-term training and technical assistance. The centers serve both startup and expanding businesses, and provide training and counseling in both English and Spanish. Counseling and mentoring are offered through professional volunteers including attorneys, accountants, insurance agents and benefits counselors. Because of the rural nature of the areas it serves, WESST Corp. trainers often travel to clients' businesses. WESST Corp. has the only SBA Microloan Program in New Mexico and is an SBA Loan Prequalification Program intermediary. The Las Cruces office of WESST Corp.

**49 Women's Economic Self-Sufficiency Team (WESST) Corp.**

Marie Monteros, Regional Manager	<b>Status:</b>	<b>Currently Funded Center</b>
3900 Paseo de Sol, Suite 322A, Building I	First Year Funding:	S-2002
<b>Sante Fe, NM 87505</b>		
Telephone: 505-988-5030	SBA Region:	6
Fax: 505-988-4117	Population:	Rural
Email: WESSTSF@AOL.COM		
Web site: www.wesst.org		

The Women's Economic Self-Sufficiency Team was incorporated in 1988 to assist low-income and minority women throughout New Mexico. WESST Corp. clients typically need long-term training and technical assistance. The centers serve both startup and expanding businesses, and provide training and counseling in both English and Spanish. Counseling and mentoring are offered through professional volunteers including attorneys, accountants, insurance agents and benefits counselors. Because of the rural nature of the areas it serves, WESST Corp. trainers often travel to clients' businesses. WESST Corp. has the only SBA Microloan Program in New Mexico and is an SBA Loan Prequalification Program intermediary. Under its newest grant, WESST Corp. serves Roswell and the surrounding seven-county area. With the closing of the Levi Strauss plant in the fall of 1997, the area's unemployment rate jumped to one of the highest in southeast New Mexico -- more than 12 percent, with approximately a fourth of the residents living below the poverty line.

**SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM**

**New Mexico**

**50 Women's Economic Self-Sufficiency Team (WESST) Corp.**

Bonnie Buckingham, Regional Manager

410 West Broadway

**Farmington, NM 87401**

Telephone: 505-325-0678

Fax: 505-325-0695

Email: 4business@zianet.com;

Web site: www.wesst.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: S-2000

SBA Region: 6

Population: Rural

The Women's Economic Self-Sufficiency Team was incorporated in 1988 to assist low-income and minority women throughout New Mexico. WESST Corp. clients typically need long-term training and technical assistance. The centers serve both startup and expanding businesses, and provide training and counseling in both English and Spanish. Counseling and mentoring are offered through professional volunteers including attorneys, accountants, insurance agents and benefits counselors. Because of the rural nature of the areas it serves, WESST Corp. trainers often travel to clients' businesses. WESST Corp. has the only SBA Microloan Program in New Mexico and is an SBA Loan Prequalification Program intermediary. Under its newest grant, WESST Corp. serves Roswell and the surrounding seven-county area. With the closing of the Levi Strauss plant in the fall of 1997, the area's unemployment rate jumped to one of the highest in southeast New Mexico -- more than 12 percent, with approximately a fourth of the residents living below the poverty line.

**51 Women's Economic Self-Sufficiency Team (WESST) Corp.**

Jennifer Craig, Regional Manager

PO Box 444

**Las Cruces, NM 88004**

Telephone: 505-541-1583

Fax: 505-647-5524

Email: jencraig@zianet.com

Web site: www.wesst.org

**Status: SUB**  
First Year Funding:

SBA Region: 6

Population: Urban/Rural

The Women's Economic Self-Sufficiency Team was incorporated in 1988 to assist low-income and minority women throughout New Mexico. WESST Corp. clients typically need long-term training and technical assistance. The centers serve both startup and expanding businesses, and provide training and counseling in both English and Spanish. Counseling and mentoring are offered through professional volunteers including attorneys, accountants, insurance agents and benefits counselors. Because of the rural nature of the areas it serves, WESST Corp. trainers often travel to clients' businesses. WESST Corp. has the only SBA Microloan Program in New Mexico and is an SBA Loan Prequalification Program intermediary. The Las Cruces office of WESST Corp.

**52 Women's Economic Self-Sufficiency Team (WESST) Corp.**

Roberta Ahlness, Regional Manager

200 West First Street, Suite 527

**Roswell, NM 88203**

Telephone: 505-624-9850

Fax: 505-624-9845

Email: wesstcorp@dfn.com

Web site: www.wesst.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: R-1999

SBA Region: 6

Population: Rural

The Women's Economic Self-Sufficiency Team was incorporated in 1988 to assist low-income and minority women throughout New Mexico. WESST Corp. clients typically need long-term training and technical assistance. The centers serve both startup and expanding businesses, and provide training and counseling in both English and Spanish. Counseling and mentoring are offered through professional volunteers including attorneys, accountants, insurance agents and benefits counselors. Because of the rural nature of the areas it serves, WESST Corp. trainers often travel to clients' businesses. WESST Corp. has the only SBA Microloan Program in New Mexico and is an SBA Loan Prequalification Program intermediary. Under its newest grant, WESST Corp. serves Roswell and the surrounding seven-county area. With the closing of the Levi Strauss plant in the fall of 1997, the area's unemployment rate jumped to one of the highest in southeast New Mexico -- more than 12 percent, with approximately a fourth of the residents living below the poverty line.

**SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM**

**New Mexico**

**53 Women's Economic Self-Sufficiency Team (WESST) Corp.**

Agnes Noonan, Director

700 4th St SW

**Albuquerque, NM 87102**

Telephone: 505- 241-0794

Fax: 505-241-0707

Email:

Web site: [www.wesst.org](http://www.wesst.org); [www.wesstartisans.com](http://www.wesstartisans.com)

See Women's Economic Self-Sufficiency Team (WESST), Albuquerque, NM.

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: S-2001

SBA Region: 6

Population: Urban

**New York**

**54 Canisius College**

Maureen McMahon, Project Director

2001 Main Street

**Buffalo, NY 14208**

Telephone: 716-888-2120

Fax:

Email: [millane@canisius.edu](mailto:millane@canisius.edu); [Mcmahon1@canisius.edu](mailto:Mcmahon1@canisius.edu)

Web site:

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: R-2003

SBA Region: 2

Population: Urban

The Women's Business Center, located in the New York State Empire Zone and banking development district, provides a three-pronged approach to supporting and promoting the success of entrepreneurs and small business owners: Training, Counseling and Mentoring. Training includes the Women's 9-session Leadership Certificate program that meets in the evenings. Additional business workshops are offered throughout the year on campus and at various community locations in collaboration with the SBA and other organizations. Scholarships are available to economically and socially disadvantaged women. Counseling is available from bankers, attorneys, accountants and insurance professionals. Mentors are available through the local chapter of NAWBO (National Association of Women's Business Owners). The Center has computers available to participants with access to

**55 Queens Women's Business Center**

Quenia Abreu, Director

120-55 Queens Boulevard, Suite 309

**Queens, NY 11424**

Telephone: 718-263-0546

Fax: 718-263-0594

Email: [qabreu@queensny.org](mailto:qabreu@queensny.org)

Web site: [www.queensny.org](http://www.queensny.org)

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: R-2001

SBA Region: 2

Population: Urban

The WBC will pay particular attention to immigrant women in the neighborhoods with the highest concentration of immigrants in Queens: Flushing, Jackson Heights, Corona, Elmhurst and Rego Park -Forest Hills. In 1999, there were 89,300 residents of Queens receiving public assistance. They are developing the St. Albans Market Place, a neighborhood development project designed to offer economic opportunities for micro-enterprise businesses by providing flexible selling spaces. They will office a youth entrepreneur program in collaboration with existing Queens youth programs. A youth entrepreneur curriculum has been developed for minority youth who have very limited opportunities to learn about entrepreneur concepts and models. The

## SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

### New York

#### 56 The Local Development Corporation of East New York

Ojeda Hall-Phillips, Director

80 Jamaica Avenue, 3rd Fl

**Brooklyn, NY 11207**

Telephone: 718-385-6700x107

Fax: 718-385-7505

Email: ny\_wbc@hotmail.com

Web site: www.ldcenyc.org

The Local Development Corporation of East New York provides training, counseling, mentoring, and assistance in the areas of finance, management, marketing, government procurement, loan and loan packaging. The center provides business workshop series, including "Business Ideas," "What's Hot, What's Not" and "Exploring Franchise Opportunities." The center also hosts a Minority Women Business Roundtable.

**Status: Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: R-2000

SBA Region: 2

Population: Urban

#### 57 The Women's Business Resource Center (Hunts Point)

Josephine Infante, President/CEO

866 Hunts Point Avenue

**Bronx, NY 10474**

Telephone: 718-842-8888

Fax: 718-868-9116

Email: JsInfante@aol.com

Web site: www.huntspointedc.org

All clients will fill out an intake form so they can be assisted with the exact needs of the clients. The Entrepreneurial Assistance Program provides 50 hours of training through a 10-week course. Monthly entrepreneurs clubs will provide ongoing mentoring.

**Status: Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: R-2001

SBA Region: 2

Population: Urban

#### 58 Women's Business Center of New York State

Donna L. Rebisz, President/CEO

200 Genesee Street

**Utica, NY 13502**

Telephone: 315-733-9848

Fax: 315-733-0247

Email: NYWBC@aol.com

Web site: www.nywbc.org

Upstate New York, the target area of the WBC, has both rural and urban areas that are economically distressed. In the city of Utica, where the WBC is located, 82.5% of households are described as below the poverty level. Among the programs are: home-based businesses, disadvantaged youth entrepreneurship for success, choosing your business niche, all aspects of business basics, importing/exporting, franchise, total quality management, doing business on the Internet.

**Status: Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: R-2001

SBA Region: 2

Population: Urban/Suburban/Rural

## SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

### New York

#### 59 Women's Enterprise Development Center, Inc.

Marie Considine, Project Director

707 Westchester Ave.

**White Plains, NY 10604**

Telephone: 914-948-6098

Fax:

Email: mconsidine@westchester.org

Web site:

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: R-2003

SBA Region: 2

Population: Urban

The Women's Enterprise Development Center (WEDC) offers assistance in White Plains, NY and reaches to NY Lower Hudson Valley including Northern Westchester County, Putnam County, and Rockland County. WEDC's four target populations are low-income women and women transitioning off public assistance; displaced homemakers; Latinas; and child care providers. WEDC also outreaches to survivors of domestic violence. Among the services they provide are a multitiered service delivery model, helping clients gain both business and personal skills needed to manage their businesses and achieve economic self-sufficiency; networking events; comprehensive printed entrepreneurial training curriculum in both English and Spanish; computer-based trainings, to be conducted at various locations throughout southern Westchester County. Each client is offered an opportunity to be paired with a volunteer mentor from the local women's business community.

#### 60 Women's Venture Fund, Inc.

Bette Yee, Project Director

240 West 35th Street, Suite 501

**Manhattan, NY 10001**

Telephone: 212-563-0499x515

Fax: 212-868-9116

Email: finance@wvf-ny.org

Web site: www.womensventurefund.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: S-2002

SBA Region: 2

Population: Urban

The Women's Venture Fund is based on a radically simple idea: empowering women, particularly low-income women, to create new businesses by making microloans available to them, and then ensuring their success through mentoring and training. The Fund makes microloans to entrepreneurial women who cannot get funding through conventional sources. These women have great ideas but desperately need small loans, business planning, and the support it takes to develop a business into reality. By addressing their credit and training needs, the Fund enhances the ability of women to grow their businesses over time.

### North Carolina

#### 61 Mountain Microenterprise Fund, Inc.

Carolyn Paden, Project Director

29 12 Page Ave.

**Ashville, NC 28801**

Telephone: 828-253-3824

Fax: 828-255-7953

Email: carolyn@mtnmicro.org

Web site: www.mtnmicro.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: R-2003

SBA Region: 4

Population: Rural

The Mountain Microenterprise Fund Women's Business Center, serving current and potential women business owners in the 12 county area of Western North Carolina, delivers knowledge and resources so that women from underserved communities can develop their own businesses and achieve their goals and dreams. The Women's Business Center offers a variety of services including an 8-week business planning course, one-on-one technical assistance, monthly training and networking seminars and access to loans. MMF works toward the fulfillment of its mission through five specific programs that form a comprehensive network of services and support for start-up and growing businesses. AEO has learned that comprehensive microenterprise development programming consists of four key elements. These are: Training and Technical Assistance, Credit and Access to

## SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

### North Carolina

#### 62 North Carolina Institute of Minority Economic Development

Verona P. Edmond, Director

114 West Parrish Street, 4th Floor; P.O. Box 1331

**Durham, NC 27701**

Telephone: 919-956-8889

Fax: 919-688-4358

Email: vedmond@ncimed.com

Web site: www.ncimed.com

**Status: Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: R-2000

SBA Region: 4

Population: Urban

The North Carolina Institute of Minority Economic Development targets both urban and rural women seeking business assistance within the state of North Carolina. The center provides orientation, short - and long-term training, mentoring and networking. Classes range from business start ups to financing and ongoing management assistance.

#### 63 The Women's Center of Fayetteville

Judi Superak, Director

230 Hay Street

**Fayetteville, NC 28301**

Telephone: 910-323-3377

Fax: 910-323-8828

Email: jsuperak@wcof.org; sray@wcof.org

Web site: www.wcof.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: S-2003

SBA Region: 4

Population: Urban

The mission of the North Carolina Center for Women Business Owners is to assist members of the community to achieve lifetime economic stability for themselves and their families through business ownership. It provides entrepreneurial training through one-on-one counseling, classes, and workshops. The programs of the center maintain high local credibility and are enhanced through strong community partnerships. The center serves a diverse population in Cumberland County and surrounding areas to

### North Dakota

#### 64 The Center for Technology and Business, Women and Technology

Tara Holt, Director

1022 East Divide Avenue, PO Box 2535 (58502)

**Bismarck, ND 58501**

Telephone: 701-223-0707

Fax: 701-223-2507

Email: holt@techwomen.org; fugere@techwomen.org

Web site: www.techwomen.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: R-1999

SBA Region: 8

Population: Urban/Rural

Through partnerships with SBA resources, colleges and universities, the North Dakota Department of Commerce, the Center for Technology and Business/Women and Technology Program provides simplified computer training business-development and technical assistance to clients throughout North Dakota. The center has developed a simplified curriculum to teach rural and reservation-based folks how to use a computer with Microsoft programs in just 12 hours. They have published five books: Introductory, Intermediate, Windows Management, Power Up with Projects, and Web Page Design, plus numerous modules such as PowerPoint, Access, Digital Images for Realtors and rural City Planners. These programs are run through the business information center, tribal business information centers, and economic-development offices throughout the state. During their first

**SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM**

**Ohio**

**65 Alex Community Development Corporation**

Ms. Alexis E. Afzal, CPA, Director  
 12200 Fairhill Road, 4th Flr.  
**Cleveland, OH 44120**  
 Telephone: 216 707 0777  
 Fax:  
 Email: wbc.alexcdc@sbcglobal.net  
 Web site:

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
 First Year Funding: R-2003  
  
 SBA Region: 5  
 Population: Urban

The Alex Community Development Corporation (Alex CDC) serves the city of Cleveland and Cuyahoga County. Alex CDC serves a wide range of small business owners with a special emphasis on women business owners in their early stages and women looking to grow their existing business. Alex CDC provides training courses, counseling and mentoring, technical assistance, and networking events. Additional, outreach programs are held at libraries within the Cuyahoga County Library Network.

**66 OWBRN Cincinnati Office: c/o Cincinnati Business Incubator**

Anna Sharp, Contact  
 1634 Central Parkway  
**Cincinnati, OH 45202**  
 Telephone: 513-362-2700  
 Fax: 513-784-0812  
 Email: asharp@cbincubator.org  
 Web site: www.cbincubator.org

**Status: SUB**  
 First Year Funding:  
  
 SBA Region: 5  
 Population:

Provides business training for start -ups and existing businesses; below market office space; home based business assistance; support services for growing businesses. INFO Hotline: 513-362-2744; Annette Tarver, Contact

**67 OWBRN Columbus Field Office: c/o EnterpriseWorks**

Marcia Duffy, Contact  
 92 Jefferson Ave  
**Columbus, OH 43215**  
 Telephone: 614-228-1043  
 Fax: 614-228-4160  
 Email: m.m.m.duffy@att.net  
 Web site: www.enterpriseworksinc.org

**Status: SUB**  
 First Year Funding:  
  
 SBA Region: 5  
 Population:

Services provided: counseling, training and business development to micro enterprises. Provides long term and short-term business development training.

**68 OWBRN Ohio Women Business Center Headquarters: c/o EnterpriseWorks, Inc.**

Linda Steward, Executive Director  
 88 E. Broad Street, Suite 1770  
**Columbus, OH 43215**  
 Telephone: 614-224-5688  
 Fax: 614-228-4160  
 Email: lsteward@netwalk.com  
 Web site: www.owbrn.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
 First Year Funding: S-2002  
  
 SBA Region: 5  
 Population: Urban/Suburban/Rural

The OWBDC provides private-sector certification for women business owners, as well as training in e-commerce and procurement issues.

## SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

### Oklahoma

#### 69 Institution Programs, Inc.

Anne Coleman, Program Director  
2709 West I-44 Service Road  
**Oklahoma City, OK 73112**  
Telephone: 405-601-1932  
Fax: 405-601-1935  
Email: anne@helpyourbiz.org  
Web site: www.helpyourbiz.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: R-2001

SBA Region: 6  
Population: Urban

The I.P.I. Women's Business Center, operating under the name of the Terry Neese Center for Entrepreneurial Excellence, is a well respected business development center, staffed exclusively by entrepreneurs who either currently own a small business or have owned businesses in the past. We counsel, free of charge, entrepreneurs wanting to start a business or ones attempting to expand their existing business. We offer a variety of small group workshops on topics such as business plan development, access to capital, sales and marketing, procurement, how to use the internet, becoming a certified woman business owner and others. Additionally, we conduct state-wide conferences and special events featuring successful women and minority business owners as well as host mentoring groups for women who are TANF recipients, survivors of domestic violence, welfare recipients and home

#### 70 Oklahomans for Indian Opportunity (OIO) Women's Business Center

Betty Olivas, Program Director  
3001 South Berry Road, Suite B  
**Norman, OK 73072**  
Telephone: 405-329-3737  
Fax: 405-329-8488  
Email: bolivas@oiooio.com  
Web site: www.oiooio.com

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: R-2001

SBA Region: 6  
Population: Rural

The OIO Women's Business Center offers services statewide, with the exception of Oklahoma City. The center provides counseling and technical assistance in all areas pertinent for start-ups and business expansions. The center is an SBA loan prequalification intermediary and offers guidance in loan packaging and makes referrals to SBA lenders. The center's main office is in Norman and has office hours on certain days in the following areas: Durant, Broken Bow, Tahlequah, Lawton, Anadarko, Clinton, El Reno, Pawnee, Ponca City and Kaw City. Business training is provided in all the locations.

#### 71 Rural Enterprises of Oklahoma, Inc. (REO) Women's Business Center

Dr. Barbara Rackley, Coordinator  
P.O. Box 1335  
**Durant, OK 74702**  
Telephone: 580-924-5094  
Fax: 580-920-2745  
Email: barbara@ruralenterprise.com  
Web site: www.rei-rwbc.com

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: R-2001

SBA Region: 6  
Population: Rural

The Rural Women's Business Center is a cooperative agreement between SBA and Rural Enterprises of Oklahoma, Inc. serving women entrepreneurs in the 21 counties of southeastern Oklahoma. The RWBC is committed to assisting rural Oklahoma's enterprising women explore the opportunities of starting a business or expanding and improving an existing business by providing business, technical and financial assistance. REI has the capability to help businesses with finances from \$1500 to \$10 million. Monthly roundtables, the Women's Biz Connection, have been started in several locations in the 21-county area and others are being started monthly. Current and perspective women business owners network and each month a different topic of importance to starting and growing a business is presented by an expert on the issue. Partnering with organizations in the local area and utilizing the resources of REI, the RWBC works to provide assistance needed by women business owners.

**SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM**

**Oregon**

**72 Southern Oregon Women's Access to Credit (SOWAC)**

Helen Wallace, Director  
 33 North Central, Suite 209  
**Medford, OR 97501**  
 Telephone: 541-779-3992  
 Fax: 541-779-5195  
 Email: hwallace@sowac.org  
 Web site: www.sowac.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
 First Year Funding: S-2000  
  
 SBA Region: 10  
 Population: Rural

BUSINESS TRAINING: Basic training courses include a 3-week Business Readiness class where students explore the feasibility of their business idea; and Planning & Managing Your Small Business, a 10-week course which results in a written business plan. Advanced courses include the 6-month Marketing Roundtable which involves monthly group meetings, individual counseling, and completion of a written marketing plan; the F Track Business Plan training where clients are assisted one-on-one to produce a business plan; and Bookkeeping Basics, combining class work and individual follow-up to establish an easy method for keeping books.. Individual business counseling is also available. LENDING SERVICES: Our loan program provides funds to new or existing businesses for such things as equipment, inventory, and working capital. Loans can be made up to \$25,000. All loans require an acceptable written business plan. We also provide help with applications for loans granted by the Oregon Economic and Community Development Department.

**Pennsylvania**

**73 Community First Fund**

Daniel Betancourt, Project Director  
 P.O. Box 524  
**Lancaster, PA 17608-0524**  
 Telephone: 717-393-2351  
 Fax: 717-290-7936  
 Email:  
 jbrodhead@commfirstfund.org;betancourt@commfirstfund.o  
 Web site: www.comfirstfund.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
 First Year Funding: R-2003  
  
 SBA Region: 3  
 Population: Rural

Community First Fund serves the counties of Lancaster, York, Dauphin, Cumberland, Lebanon, Berks, Perry, Adams, and Franklin. The population in that region is a little more than 2 million people and is both urban and rural. CFF provides one-on-one business counseling, small business long- and short term training, business loan assistance via CFF's resources and

**74 Women's Business Development Center (WBDC)**

Geri Swift, President  
 1315 Walnut Street, Suite 1116  
**Philadelphia, PA 19107**  
 Telephone: 215-790-9232  
 Fax: 215-790-9231  
 Email: info@womensbdc.org; gswift@womensbdc.org  
 Web site: www.wbenc.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
 First Year Funding: S-2000  
  
 SBA Region: 3  
 Population: Urban

The Women's Business Development Center fosters business development and business retention. The center enables women to launch new businesses and to run their existing businesses more successfully. WBDC offers startup, emerging and established entrepreneurs a unique continuum of supportive services, including "FastTrac Planning", a comprehensive 11-week program culminating in a viable business plan for each entrepreneur; child care entrepreneurial training programs; individualized business consulting in management, marketing, and financial matters; loan packaging; and procurement and certification assistance. By offering a full range of services and using the expertise of successful women business owners to deliver its programs, the WBDC has become a focal point for women's economic empowerment opportunities in the Greater Philadelphia region.

## SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

### Puerto Rico

#### 75 Women's Business Institute (WBI)

Pedro Avecado, Acting Director

P. O. Box 12383

**San Juan, PR 00914-0383**

Telephone: 787-726-7045

Fax: (787) 726-6550

Email: pacevedo@sagrado.edu

Web site: www.wbipr.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: S-2002

SBA Region: 2

Population: Urban/Island

The Women's Business Institute at the University of the Sacred Heart's Center for Women's Entrepreneurial Development offers technical assistance to women interested in establishing businesses. It also provides women business owners a place to launch and share ideas, objectives and experiences. The WBI contributes to the social and economic development of women through training on empowerment and business ownership as a viable way to achieve economic independence.

### Rhode Island

#### 76 Center for Women & Enterprise, Inc. (CWE)

Carol Malysz, Director

55 Claverick Street, Suite 102

**Providence, RI 02903**

Telephone: 401-277-0800 / 401-558-4539

Fax: 401-277-1122

Email: cmalysz@cweprovidence.org

Web site: www.cweonline.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: R-1999

SBA Region: 1

Population: Urban/Rural

The Center for Women & Enterprise Rhode Island is successfully addressing the need for women entrepreneurs to access capital and credit through their national Center of Excellence for Finance. CWE Rhode Island specializes in providing technical assistance on SBA loan programs and directing women business owners to local SBA resource and financial partners. The Center also offers training, mentoring, and one-on-one counseling to help women build their business skills and create a lifetime network of key resources and contacts. Key business training courses at CWE Rhode Island include: Power Up!, GROW (Getting Right On With It Groups), Business Basics, Business Planning, E-Commerce, Launching a Viable Business, Sales Strategies, Pricing Your Product or Service, Interactive Market Research, Keeping the Books, and Financial Management and

### South Carolina

#### 77 South Carolina Manufacturing Extension Partnership/Women's Business

Haidee Clark Stith, Project Director

817 Calhoun Street

**Columbia, SC 29201**

Telephone: 803 461 8900

Fax: 803-799-7282

Email: hstith@scmep.org

Web site: www.scwbc.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: R-2002

SBA Region: 4

Population: Urban

The South Carolina Women's Business Center is supported through the South Carolina Manufacturing Extension Partnership (SCMEP). The SCMEP's mission is to help small to mid-sized manufacturers become more competitive and productive. The WBC, established in 2003, offers business development resources for women entrepreneurs throughout the state. The program's services are targeted to support women in manufacturing, including women-owned and managed manufacturers and professional women who seek training and resources to become more effective and successful. The WBC's partners include the Center for Women in Charleston, SC, the SBDC's, SCORE and the state's technical colleges and universities. Through these partnerships, the Center offers a variety of training, professional development and consulting services to assist women entrepreneurs from product development to business planning, start-up and existing business performance improvement.

## SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

### South Dakota

#### 78 Center for Women Business Institute

Vacant , Executive Director

1101 W. 22nd Street

**Sioux Falls, SD 57105**

Telephone: 605-331-6697; 866 556 1778

Fax: 605-331-6574

Email: rebecca.skroch@usiouxfalls.edu

Web site: [www.usiouxfalls.edu/als/cfw.html](http://www.usiouxfalls.edu/als/cfw.html)

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: R-2001

SBA Region: 8

Population: Rural

The Center for Women Business Institute focuses on women in South Dakota that are interested in entrepreneurship in any capacity. We provide assessment, career counseling, consultation, referrals, resources and training for current and prospective South Dakota women entrepreneurs at little or no charge. Our focus is primarily on providing services to rural women in South Dakota. The Center maintains a bi-monthly newsletter that can be found on their website with updates and upcoming events.

### Tennessee

#### 79 Southeast Women's Business Center

Sandi Brock, Program Director

535 Chestnut Street; PO Box 4757

**Chattanooga, TN 37402; 37405**

Telephone: 423-424-4246

Fax: (423) 267-7705

Email: sbrock@sedev.org

Web site: [sewbc.com](http://sewbc.com) (currently under construction)

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: R-2001

SBA Region: 4

Population: Urban

The WBC is located in the inner-city area of Chattanooga. Outreach is provided throughout the rural communities of Appalachia. The WBC offers traditional business development assistance to women business owners and potential entrepreneurs. The focus in rural areas is home-based businesses. The circuit-rider approach to provide access to services throughout Appalachia allows women who have never had access to such assistance become economically self sufficient through self employment.

#### 80 The National Association for Women Business Owners

Janice Thomas, Executive Director

1112 8th Avenue South

**Nashville, TN 37203**

Telephone: 615-248-3474

Fax: 615-256-2706

Email: [janice@womensresourcecenter.biz](mailto:janice@womensresourcecenter.biz)

Web site:

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: S-2002

SBA Region: 4

Population: Urban

Nashville NAWBO was the first chapter chartered in Tennessee, and it helped establish chapters in Chattanooga, Memphis and the Tri-Cities area, thus creating a statewide partnership of women business owners. In concert with its educational foundation, the Nashville Foundation for Women Business Owners, Nashville NAWBO established the first SBA-funded women's business center in Tennessee. Located in Nashville, the Women's Resource Center offers on-site business-counseling services, training programs and technical assistance to women business owners in Middle Tennessee, which includes 21 counties. Through the consortium of sister NAWBO chapters, and a corporate partnership with BellSouth and the Tennessee Economic Development Center, the Women's Resource Center provides training programs statewide through satellite, two-way interactive

**SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM**

**Texas**

**81 Fort Worth Women's Business Center**

Catherine Simpson, Program Director  
 1150 South Freeway  
**Fort Worth, TX 76104**  
 Telephone: 817-871-6021  
 Fax: 817-871-6031  
 Email: csimpson@fwbac.com  
 Web site: www.fwbac.com

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
 First Year Funding: S-2001  
  
 SBA Region: 6  
 Population: Urban

Since the inception of the Fort Worth Women's Business Center, the sole focus has been, and will continue to be, supporting the success of women and minority-owned business owners through training, mentoring, one-on-one counseling, net working opportunities, and technical services. These services are designed to accelerate and sustain small business ownership. Together with our community partners, the City of Fort Worth, and the Small Business Administration, we provide an encouraging environment in which sound business ideas take root and grow. Most of the services we offer are low or no cost allowing all women equal opportunity to achieve business ownership. Our Center also offers an array of special activities including the annual Entrepreneur Expo, Project NEW; (Network to Empower Entrepreneurial Women) a 10-week series of workshops designed to support the efforts of women starting their business or during their direct year in business, and the ACORN Project; (Able & Confident Owners Rebuilding Neighborhoods) an eight-week free course is designed to re-educate, motivate, and empower low-income or no-income individuals to start their own business.

**82 Women's Business Border Center**

Terri Adams-Reed, Project Director  
 201 E. Main Street, Suite 100  
**El Paso, TX 79901**  
 Telephone: 915-566-4066  
 Fax: 915-566-9714  
 Email: treed@ephcc.org  
 Web site: www.ephcc.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
 First Year Funding: R-2001  
  
 SBA Region: 6  
 Population: Urban

The Women's Business Border Center is managed by the El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and currently has 15 full-time staff professionals most of whom are of Hispanic descent and bilingual (English - Spanish) and experienced in providing services to small, women, and minority business owners. The Chamber's staff reflects the seventy-three percent (73%) Hispanic population of the region. The first WBBC satellite office was located in El Puente CDC to target the 35,000 displaced workers and other economically disadvantaged residents within the Empowerment and HUB Zone designated areas. Bilingual business skills and management training is available through the "Financial Literacy Series". The WBBC also produces bilingual training manuals, including: "So, you want to start a business?" "The Basic Components of a Business Plan", and "Website Marketing". Other services include arranging for local entrepreneurs to provide online mentoring and providing demographic statistics regarding women entrepreneurs along the U.S. Mexico border. "Water Cooler Talks" focuses on the roughly 4,000 SOHO to assess their needs and challenges. Due to the large military presence in the area, the Chamber has implemented the Women in the Battlefield program, which assists female veterans transitioning into civilian life. Bilingual assistance is provided for all business start-ups and expansions.

**Utah**

**83 Women's Business Center**

Nancy Mitchell, Executive Director  
 238 South Main Street  
**Salt Lake City, UT 84111**  
 Telephone: 801-328-5075  
 Fax: 801-328-5098  
 Email: nmitchell@saltlakechamber.org  
 Web site: www.saltlakechamber.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
 First Year Funding: S-2002  
  
 SBA Region: 8  
 Population: Urban

The Women's Business Center at the Chamber supports the success of women business owners throughout Utah with counseling, training and loan-packaging assistance. With more than 30 committees and task forces, the Chamber provides unique networking opportunities for clients as well as a full-service export-assistance program. An onsite high-tech center offers access to the Internet and all types of business software. Women business owners can access help with marketing, management, finance and procurement. There is a modest fee for some services, but scholarships and specialized training are available for

## SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

### Vermont

#### 84 Central Vermont Community Action Council, Vermont's Women's Business Center (CVCAC)

Linda Ingold, Project Director

660 Elm Street

Montpelier, VT 05602

Telephone: 802-229-2182

Fax: 802-229-2141

Email: lingold@cvcac.org; cflint@cvcac.org;

stomasine@cvcac.org

Web site: www.vwbc.org

Status: **Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: R-1999

SBA Region: 1

Population: Urban/Rural

The Vermont Women's Business Center offers entrepreneurial counseling, technical training and networking opportunities statewide for women of all economic levels. Working with providers throughout the state, resources and referral services are provided for women at all stages of small business development paying particular attention to assistance with writing business plans and on-going support for women already in business.

### Virgin Islands

#### 85 St. Croix Foundation for Community Development, Inc. (SCFCD)

##### Virgin Islands Women's Business Center

Bernadette Richards, Program Director

72 Flag Drive, Gallows Bay

St. Croix, USVI 00802

Telephone: 340-773-4995

Fax: 340-773-8503

Email: bernadetter@viaccess.net; staff@wbcvi.org;

Web site: www.wbcvi.org

Status: **Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: R-1999

SBA Region: 2

Population: Urban/Island

About one in three Virgin Islanders lives in poverty, and single women account for more than 50 percent of the heads of households. The St. Croix Foundation for Community Development helps these women change their lives through entrepreneurship. The WBC offers training on both St. Thomas and St. Croix. They cover how to write a business plan, loan strategies—accessing capital for startups and expansions—as well as basic accounting, record-keeping, small business management and marketing, and Internet training. Individual counseling sessions are available. Networking sessions are also regularly held. Two-hour seminars cover topics such as “The 3Ds: Dedication, Discipline, Due Diligence,” “It’s All Attitude,” “Arts and Crafts for Profit,” “The Government Procurement Process,” and “Over the Money Hurdle, Moving from Local to Global.” An Annual Economic Development Conference along with an E-Commerce Summit and Business Exposition has also become a part of the program. The WBC has also instituted a micro loan program, and Summer Entrepreneurship camp for girls.

### Virginia

#### 86 New Visions, New Ventures, Inc.

Dr. Ann Parker-Maust, Project Director

801 East Main Street, Suite 1102

Richmond, VA 23219

Telephone: 804-643-1081

Fax: 804-643-1081

Email: Ann\_nv@cavtel.net

Web site: www.nvnnv.org

Status: **Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding: R-2003

SBA Region: 3

Population: Urban

New Visions, New Ventures, Inc. services target the City of Richmond, VA, counties of Henrico and Chesterfield. These areas are a combination of urban and rural. NVNV reaches African American women and women who are socially and economically disadvantaged. NVNV provides services to women with disabilities, women from limited income neighborhoods, women who live in public housing and women involved in community corrections or programs related to domestic violence and sexual assault. Traditionally, NVNV's clients are low-income women who are either unemployed or in low wage jobs with little opportunity for upward mobility. NVNV provides monthly peer networking groups designed to foster positive reinforcement for clientele, a leadership development program, transportation and childcare.

## SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

### Virginia

#### 87 Women's Business Center of Northern Virginia

Barbara Wrigley, Director

7001 Loisdale Road, Springfield

**Falls Church, VA 22150**

Telephone: 703-534-6220

Fax: 703-534-6223

Email: bwrigley@wbcnova.org; info@wbcnova.org

Web site: www.wbcnova.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: R-2000

SBA Region: 3

Population: Urban

The Women's Business Center of Northern Virginia is a program of the Community Business Partnership, Inc., and enjoys the support of the Fairfax County Office for Women and George Mason University's Mason Enterprise Center. The WBC provides the training, assistance and support needed for women in the Northern Virginia region seeking to start or grow a business. The center hosts monthly networking events; provides training in start-up, management, financing and procurement; and offers free technical assistance, particularly with business and marketing plans. In addition, the Center offers unique programs for Fairfax County's home-based childcare providers; as well as a Hispanic Entrepreneur Project for those who prefer training and counseling conducted in Spanish. For more information, or to register for classes, please visit [www.wbcnova.org](http://www.wbcnova.org).

### Washington

#### 88 Northwest Women's Business Center

Tiffany McVeety, Director

728 134th Street, SW, Suite 219

**Everett, WA 98203**

Telephone: 425-787-9856

Fax: 425-745-5563

Email: TiffanyM@seattleccd.com

Web site: www.seattleccd.com

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: R-2001

SBA Region: 10

Population: Urban/Rural

The Community Capital Development Program at NW WBC provides assistance to seasoned entrepreneurs (in business three to five years) and to start up business owners (in business three years or less). The center serves six counties; Kitsap, Snohomish, Skagit, Whatcom, Island, and San Juan, in Northwest Washington State. The center works closely with its many partners in the community, including banks, local economic-development agencies, small business development centers, and other local business support-service agencies. Community Capital Development has its own in-house loan fund as well as being an SBA lender and an intermediary for the SBA Loan Prequalification Program.

#### 89 Women's Business Center

Carole Butkus, Director

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**Seattle, WA 98122**

Telephone: 206-325-9458

Fax: 206-325-4322

Email: caroleb@seattleccd.com

Web site: www.seattleccd.com

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: S-2003

SBA Region: 10

Population: Urban

The Community Capital Development Program provides assistance to seasoned entrepreneurs (in business three to five years) and to start up business owners (in business three years or less). Startup business clients include many from the Seattle Housing Authority, and many recent immigrants and immigrant women on welfare. The center works closely with its many partners in the community, including banks, local economic-development agencies, small business development centers, and other local business support-service agencies. Community Capital Development has its own in-house loan fund as well as being an SBA lender and an intermediary for the SBA Loan Prequalification Program.

**SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM**

**Wisconsin**

**90 Western Dairyland Women's Business Center (WDWBC)**

Julie Bollinger, Business Development Specialist

PO Box 540; 418 Wisconsin Street

**Eau Claire, WI 54701**

Telephone: 715-836-7511, Ext 172

Fax: 715-836-7580

Email: [rwalz@westerndairyland.org](mailto:rwalz@westerndairyland.org);

[julieb@westerndairyland.org](mailto:julieb@westerndairyland.org)

Web site: [www.successfulbusiness.org](http://www.successfulbusiness.org);

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

**Status:**

**SUB**

First Year Funding:

SBA Region:

5

Population:

The Western Dairyland Women's Business Center serves seventeen counties in western Wisconsin. The city of Eau Claire, the largest population center in the service area, has the lowest per capita personal income of any metropolitan area in the state, while the predominantly rural nature of the service area hampers business and economic development. WDWBC projects that at least 75 percent of its clients have incomes at or below 150 percent of the poverty level. WDWBC provides startup assistance, access to a loan-guaranty fund, intensive follow-along services to regularly monitor progress, and continued access to a lending library of computers and related equipment. Owners of existing businesses receive customized technical assistance, including business-plan development, accessing financing from local lenders, SBA Loan Prequalification and Microloan programs, marketing assistance, Internet training, etc. Two types of businesses are especially targeted: child-care and home-based businesses. The center also shares information on Western Dairyland's sewing and textile manufacturing network, a model for flexible manufacturing that allows several micro-businesses to obtain contracts and produce products together that the individual businesses could not handle on their own. E-Commerce site: [www.wisconsincommonmarket.com](http://www.wisconsincommonmarket.com)

**91 Western Dairyland Women's Business Center (WDWBC)**

Renee Walz, Project Manager

P.O. Box 125; 23122 Whitehall Road

**Independence, WI 54747**

Telephone: 715-985-2391x 211; 800-782-1063 ext. 211

Fax: 715-985-3239

Email: [rwalz@westerndairyland.org](mailto:rwalz@westerndairyland.org);

[julieb@westerndairyland.org](mailto:julieb@westerndairyland.org)

Web site: [www.successfulbusiness.org](http://www.successfulbusiness.org)

See Eau Claire, WI. E-Commerce site: [www.wisconsincommonmarket.com](http://www.wisconsincommonmarket.com)

**Status:**

**Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding:

R-1999

SBA Region:

5

Population: Rural

**92 Wisconsin Women's Business Initiative Corporation (WWBIC)**

Jill French, Project Director

2300 South Park Street, Suite 4

**Madison, WI 53713**

Telephone: 608-257-5450

Fax: 608-257-5454

Email: [jill.french@wwbic.com](mailto:jill.french@wwbic.com)

Web site: [www.wwbic.com](http://www.wwbic.com)

**Status:**

**Currently Funded Center**

First Year Funding:

S-2001

SBA Region:

5

Population: Urban/Rural

The Wisconsin Women's Business Initiative Corporation (WWBIC) is a nonprofit economic development corporation providing quality business education, classes, one-on-one assistance and access to capital. Since 1989, WWBIC has served more than 12,000 individuals; directly financed more than 175 business start-ups; supported over 150 business expansions in local communities; and lent more than \$4.3 million to small business owners across Wisconsin. We concentrate our efforts on women, low-income individuals and people of color. Each year, WWBIC provides more than 300 training sessions on a variety of business topics throughout the state. It is the state's largest microlender and a certified CDFI. Unique programs to WWBIC's South Central office include economic literacy education and coordination of the Child Care Business Partnership, a

**SBA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM**

**Wisconsin**

**93 Wisconsin Women's Business Initiative Corporation (WWBIC)**

Wendy K. Werkmeister, President  
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**Milwaukee, WI 53212**  
Telephone: 414-263-5450  
Fax: 414-263-5456  
Email: wendy.werkmeister@wwbic.com;  
julann.jatczak@wwbic.com  
Web site: www.wwbic.com

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: S-2000  
  
SBA Region: 5  
  
Population: Urban

The Wisconsin Women's Business Initiative Corporation (WWBIC) is a nonprofit economic development corporation providing quality business education, classes, one-on-one assistance and access to capital. Since 1989, WWBIC has served more than 12,000 individuals; directly financed more than 175 business start-ups; supported over 150 business expansions in local communities; and lent more than \$4.3 million to small business owners across Wisconsin. We concentrate our efforts on women, low-income individuals and people of color. Each year, WWBIC provides more than 300 training sessions on a variety of business topics throughout the state. It is the state's largest microlender and a certified CDFI. Its unique programs include business incubation, Individual Development Account initiatives, and a social business venture/business laboratory "Coffee with a Conscience." WWBIC also offers consulting services to other microenterprise development organizations.

**Wyoming**

**94 Wyoming Women's Business Center, a project of the Wyoming Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault**

Rosemary Bratton, Acting Director  
P.O. Box 3661, 13th & Lewis Streets, Education Annex  
Building, Room 155 **Laramie, WY 82071**  
  
Telephone: 307-766-3084; 888-524-1947  
Fax: 307-766-3085  
Email: wwbc@uwoyo.edu; lindywbc@uwoyo.edu  
Web site: www.wyomingwomen.org

**Status: Currently Funded Center**  
First Year Funding: R-1999  
  
SBA Region: 8  
  
Population: Rural

The Wyoming Women's Business Center strives to advance financial self-sufficiency by promoting economic justice and equality throughout Wyoming. With less than 500,000 people scattered over nearly 100,000 square miles, Wyoming is the least-populated state in the country. Great distances between small towns, severe weather, and rugged terrain contribute to a unique, often isolated, rural lifestyle. Employment opportunities are limited, and in the state with the highest gender-based wage disparity in the nation, Wyoming's women often find difficulty supporting themselves and their children. The Wyoming Women's Business Center promotes economic independence through successful business ownership. As Wyoming's only SBA Intermediary lender, the WWBC provides access to capital, training and technical assistance, and statewide networking opportunities to its target population of women, people of color, and low-income individuals. A project of the Wyoming Coalition Against Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault, the WWBC also partners with the University of Wyoming, the Wyoming Small Business Development Center, the Wyoming Business Council, and the SBA.