

Partners & Referral Information

Ives Main Library | 133 Elm Street, New Haven, CT 06510 | (203) 946-8130 x140



The Black Business Alliance is a supportive network committed to the success and growth of Black-owned businesses. They offer access to funding, resources, and a community of like-minded entrepreneurs, all aimed at fostering growth, prosperity and opportunity within the Black community. Please note there are fees for some programs and services. https://www.bbusinessalliance.org/



Collab aims to provide entrepreneurs with impactful business support so they can build good businesses, create economic power, and shape their communities. They prioritize serving people of color and women. Collab is best known for their accelerator programs. They were recently acquired by reSET, a Harford based nonprofit with similar goals. This joint venture will expand their reach to better serve entrepreneurs statewide. https://collabnewhaven.org/



Community Economic Development Fund (CEDF) is a non-profit economic development organization. CEDF is Connecticut's leading SBA Microlender. They offer mentorship to people preparing to qualify for a loan and provide them with a business advisor after the loan is received. CEDF also offers programming and self-paced courses on essential business topics. All of their services and classes are available in English and Spanish. www.cedf.com



The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven is a philanthropic institution that was established in 1928 and is one of the oldest and largest community foundations in the United States. The Community Foundation does many low-cost and free workshops for non-profits and professionals looking to develop their skills. They also run grant and funding opportunities throughout the year, including the annual Great Give. Many local non-profits work with them in some capacity. https://www.cfgnh.org/



Connecticut Small Business Development Center (CTSBDC) is passionate about helping small business owners reach their goals. Their advisors offer guidance and support so individuals can focus on growing their businesses, whether they are in the ideation phase or already have an established business. CTSBDC also offers a variety of no-cost in-person events and online resources for small businesses. https://ctsbdc.uconn.edu/



District Arts and Education designs and delivers educational programs and cultural experiences that serve as a catalyst for transformation in the lives of individuals and communities that have been historically and systemically under-resourced. At DAE, students spend their days working on projects, using state-of-the-art equipment, in a collaborative and creative environment. They provide classes and events for youth and adults. https://www.transformnhv.org/





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The Lab at ConnCORP is a learning and knowledge center—a laboratory for new ideas—a community hub and place to present, share, and exchange ideas about business ownership and entrepreneurship. Through their business incubator, they facilitate wealth creation and financial security within the urban community, forming the ecosystem for minority business growth and increased home ownership. https://www.labatconncorp.com/



MakeHaven, Inc. is a not-for-profit, membership-driven organization, and gathering place for makers, creators, tinkerers and dreamers. The environment supports development and collaboration on a wide variety of projects. MakeHaven enables people to create through a limited number of free public events, as well as paid skill building workshops and trainings. https://www.makehaven.org/



NXTHVN is a new national arts model that empowers artists, curators, and the community through education and access to a vibrant ecosystem. Supported by intergenerational mentorship, cross-sector collaboration, and local engagement, NXTHVN accelerates the careers of the next generation and fosters retention of professional art talent while helping catalyze New Haven into a world-class, sustainable arts community. https://www.nxthvn.com/about/



SCORE's mission is to foster vibrant small business communities using mentoring and education. They offer various programs, initiatives, and even free mentorship for small businesses and locals. SCORE's nationwide initiatives help entrepreneurs and small business owners at various stages in their professional lives. SCORE provides helpful classes for people at all stages of their business. https://newhaven.score.org/



Small Business Administration (SBA) provides help with SBA services including funding programs, counseling, federal contracting certifications, and disaster recovery. They have online funding opportunities, learning platforms, and business guides. They also connect people to partner organizations, lenders, and other community groups. Their offices are located in Hartford and Bridgeport. https://www.sba.gov/district/connecticut



Women's Business Development Council (WBDC) is a non-profit organization that provides the tools and resources to help women thrive in business. They offer business consultations and advice, grant programs, and funding opportunities for women at all stages of their business development. Their services are available in English and Spanish . https://ctwbdc.org/

