

People, Programs and Organizations Serving Entrepreneurs

Technical Assistance

Organization Name: Small Business Development Center, College of DuPage

Director or Leadership: Rita Haake

Email: entrepreneur@cod.edu

Phone: (630) 942-2600

Web: <http://www.cod.edu/sbdc>

What They Do: Advising in management, marketing, financial and operations.

- Financial analysis/checkup
- Management assessment
- Development marketing plan
- Identify potential funding options
- Business Plan analysis

Organization Name: Women's Business Development Center

Director or Leadership: Karen Goldner

Email: wdbc@wdbc.org

Phone: (312) 853-3477

Web: <https://www.wdbc.org/>

What They Do: Advising for startup, emerging and established businesses, veteran services, certification, events and training.

- Capacity building to scale businesses to compete in the marketplace
- Technical assistance, financial support, direct lending and debt equity placement
- Woman Business Enterprise (WBE) certification
- Corporate and public sector procurement opportunities
- Veterans' business development services

Networking

Organization Name: Lemont Area Chamber of Commerce

Director or Leadership: Glenn Pasiewicz

Email: glenn@lemontchamber.com

Phone: (630) 257-5997

Web: <http://www.lemontchamber.com/>

What They Do: Our mission is to create, support, and grow the Lemont area business community.

Provides business visibility and promotional opportunities, referrals, and access to networking functions.

Capital

Micro-finance and Seed Grants (less than \$25k in loans, less than \$1,000 grants)

Organization Name: Chicago Neighborhood Initiatives (CNI)

Director or Leadership: Erica King

Email: eking@cnigroup.org

Phone: (773) 341-2072

Web <https://www.cnigroup.org/neighborhood-lending/>

What They Do: CNI's Micro Finance Group is committed to bringing affordable microfinance solutions to small business owners who do not have access to traditional sources of financing. Microloans from the Micro Finance Group, currently ranging from \$500 – \$50,000, feature flexible underwriting criteria to allow borrowers to start up and expand their businesses.

Each loan must meet one of the following mission-based requirements:

- Creates new and / higher paying employment opportunities
- Save existing jobs
- Creates more spending within communities on the South and West sides of Chicago, adjacent suburban communities and Northwest Indiana
- Promotes community development by revitalizing commercial strips in underserved neighborhoods

Bank Loans (specifically, SBA 504, 7a, Community Express etc.)

Organization Name: Lemont Bank & Trust / Wintrust

Director or Leadership: Thomas H. Huffman

Email: thuffman@wintrust.com

Phone: 847-590-7030

Web: <https://www.wintrust.com/solutions-and-services/sba-lending.html>

What They Do: If you are starting, expanding or buying a business, or purchasing real estate to start or expand a business, Wintrust's SBA experts can help you navigate the process to find the right tool for you.

- SBA EXPRESS LOANS help with expansions, acquisitions or managing cash flow. SBA Express Loans are available up to \$350,000 and our dedicated SBA team works closely with business owners through the process to offer a fast turnaround and easy-to-use lines of credit.
- SBA 7(A) LOANS can meet a variety of needs including equipment purchases, partner buyouts, additional working capital, renovation expenses and much more. Loan amounts range between \$350,001 and \$5 million.
- SBA ADVANTAGE ILLINOIS LOANS program was created after the Great Recession to work with the state's lending community and venture capitalists to help entrepreneurs and businesses start-up or expand, accelerating job creation and encouraging economic growth in Illinois.
- Advantage Illinois loans are best utilized by growing companies with collateral shortfall. The employment base must be increased in the two years following loan approval. Loan amounts are a maximum of the lesser of 25 percent of a total project or \$2 million. Loan types can be term loans or lines of credit.

- SBA CDC/504 LOANS are financed by working with Certified Development Companies (CDCs)—nonprofit corporations set up to contribute to the economic development of communities—and are used for the acquisition of new or used equipment or owner-occupied real estate when the borrower occupies a minimum 51 percent of total square footage. Through partnerships with SomerCor, Wessex and Growth Corp, we can provide local businesses with flexible terms and rates to finance major fixed assets, such as land, buildings and equipment. Loan amounts range between \$750,000 and \$10,000,000. Rates can be fixed or variable.

Angel and Venture Capital

Organization Name: West Suburban Angels

Director or Leadership: Tianyi Joe Zhu

Email: WestSuburbanAngels@gmail.com

Phone:

Web: <http://www.westsuburbanangels.com/>

What They Do: Provide a forum that brings together high-growth early stage start-up businesses looking for capital & mentorship, with investors interested in a financial return and community impact.

Companies interested in working with WSA must operate within our members' areas of expertise, which include:

- Innovative information technology
- Business services
- Industrial technology
- Financial services
- Consumer or industrial products
- Healthcare services or technology

Community Infrastructure

Organization Name: Village of Lemont Community Development Department

Director or Leadership: Jason Berry

Email: jberry@lemont.il.us

Phone: (630) 257-1581

Web: <https://www.lemont.il.us/>

What They Do: The Village of Lemont's Community Development Department manages licensing and permitting of commercial businesses within the Village through two divisions: Planning & Economic Development and Building & Inspections. Village staff is available to assist business owners, property owners, and developers to help them achieve their business goals. The Village of Lemont is committed to fostering the continued growth of our community through the retention of existing businesses and the attraction of new business and industry. The Village works closely with the Lemont Area Chamber of Commerce and other business community leaders.

Our Small Business Coordinator is assigned to work hand-in-hand with small business owners to provide a seamless process from start to your ribbon cutting.

