

# INCLUSIVE ECO-SYSTEM RESEARCH

Accepting funds awarded by the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation 2022 Inclusive Eco-systems Research Grant in the amount of \$300,000.00 for research projects that explore structures and systems that shape entrepreneurial eco-systems in the Heartland.

[Bizcare.kcmo.gov](https://bizcare.kcmo.gov)





# The KC BizCare Office

For this fiscal year the KC BisCare Office is expanding its team and impact to the small business community in Kansas City in an effort to create a "City of Entrepreneurs" .

Our office has moved internally from the City Managers Office to the Neighborhoods Departments, and is provided support from both offices in our work.



We are growing and expanding our team to a staff of 4 and restructuring our impact.



We are providing more impact through our new support services for small business policy coordination.



"We are moving into City Hall September 2022 to the 1st Floor with the Business License Team.



# FY 22–23 Initiatives

For this fiscal year the KC BizCare Office is expanding its team and impact to the small business community in Kansas City in an effort to create a "City of Entrepreneurs".

- Inclusive Eco-System Building and Research
- Capital Prep Assistance/Loan Readiness Programs
- New Grant/Loan Pool Funding
- Hispanic Based Business Initiatives (NLC Commitment)
- Small Business Pop-Ups/Food Truck Pop-up at City Hall
- Inter-Departmental Data and Policy Initiatives
- Small-Scale Manufacturing

# Data Deficiencies of BIPOC Businesses in KC

Addressing the lack of quality data of BIPOC businesses by building a database of business owners by size, sector and resource needs. This deficiency of information on BIPOC businesses consistently undermines business owners as they seek to advocate for additional resources, support, and contract opportunities.



Lunch of a Small Business Census (survey) of Kansas City businesses. (October 2022)



Development of a Data Dashboard exclusively for local ESOs to access to support their work. (MySidewalk)



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# Entrepreneurial Support Organizations



Entrepreneur support organizations (ESOs) experience many of the same challenges faced by Kansas City's diverse small business community that stifle their effectiveness. This includes staffing and resource constraints, lack of business education and practical experience, and fragmented systems of support. Without addressing these structural and systemic constraints, enabling equitable and inclusive small business growth will remain an unattainable goal.

Resource Partner Enhancement Program residency to strategically advance the capabilities and capacity of 3–5 BIPOC led entrepreneurial support organizations. Capital support in the form of grants will be provided to the resident organizations to implement new programing and/or advance their existing programing with new staff and technology.

## AREAS OF RESOURCE IMPACT:

- **Informal Entrepreneurship** support for new businesses
- **Access to Capital** technical assistance to accessing capital for a business
- **Contracting and Certification prep** through Inclusive Procurement technical support and programs
- **Back-Office Support** to help businesses sustain and grow (i.e. legal, accounting/bookkeeping, marketing, HR, etc.)