

City of Arts & Innovation

# **Press Release**

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**Contact:** Phil Pitchford Public Information Officer 951-826-5975 ppitchford@riversideca.gov

# City of Riverside's Entrepreneurship Month Efforts Culminate With Riverside Business Hub and Riverside Business Resources Guide

RIVERSIDE, Calif. – The City of Riverside's celebration of National Entrepreneurship Month has culminated in a partnership with the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce, Inland Empire Small Business Development Center, and the Women's Business Center to launch the Riverside Business Hub and Riverside Business Resource Guide.

The Riverside Business Hub, located at the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce building, reflects the City of Riverside's commitment to supporting local businesses, fostering entrepreneurship, and working closely with economic development ecosystem partners to provide valuable and accessible resources to the growing community of small business owners.

"We are thrilled to establish the Riverside Business Hub in our building," said Nicholas Adcock, President and CEO of the Riverside Greater Chambers of Commerce. "This is a reflection of our unwavering dedication to being a central resource for small businesses in our community. We want every entrepreneur to know that the Chamber is here to support them, from startup to growth."

Catering to the needs of both startups and existing businesses, The Riverside Business Hub offers nocost business support services provided by the Inland Empire Small Business Development Center and the Women's Business Center. Led by expert business consultants, business support programs provide insight, resources, and opportunities tailored for new and existing businesses, including no-cost oneon-one consulting sessions for personalized guidance and support.

"The Inland Empire Small Business Development Center offers valuable training and resources at nocost to business owners to help empower them to thrive," said Paul Nolta, Director of the Inland Empire Small Business Development Center. "Our team of experts provide guidance on business planning, financial management, marketing, and strategy, helping entrepreneurs navigate the complexities of starting and growing a business. We want to see all Riverside businesses prosper from the services we provide." Business advisors encompass current or former business owners, practicing attorneys, angel investors, procurement experts, former bankers, marketers, web designers, CPAs, student interns, and more. Staff speaks Arabic, Armenian, Assyrian, Cantonese, Chiuchow, Farsi, French, German, Gujarati, Hindi, Hungarian, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Laotian, Mandarin, Marathi, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Turkish, Ukrainian, Urdu, and Vietnamese.

As another resource for businesses, the newly launched Riverside Business Resource Guide is now available at City Hall and The Riverside Business Hub. The Riverside Business Resource Guide brings together the vast array of resources from numerous entrepreneurial support organizations to provide businesses with a single, comprehensive guide to easily navigate their entrepreneurial journey. The Riverside Business Resource Guide can be found <u>here</u>.

"The Riverside Business Resource Guide is designed to be a one-stop guide for entrepreneurs, providing all the essential information and tools in one place to help businesses succeed," said Miranda Evans, Economic Development Manager for the City of Riverside. "By consolidating resources on funding, regulations, permits, and support services, it simplifies the process of starting, growing, and sustaining a successful business. With the launch of this guide, we want you to know that Riverside is committed to providing a streamlined, business-friendly experience, ensuring that entrepreneurs have the resources and support they need to succeed every step of the way."

The City and its partners encourage the community to shop local and support the hardworking small business owners who contribute to the vibrancy and diversity of the local economy. This commitment was reflected in the recent Small Business Saturday celebration, part of a nationwide event that takes place every year on the Saturday after Thanksgiving and serves as an opportunity to recognize the impact small businesses have on communities and the economy as a whole.

The Riverside Business Hub will be hosting a variety of events to provide educational workshops, networking opportunities, and guidance on navigating the challenges of entrepreneurship. These events are open to all and designed to encourage collaboration and growth within the small business community.

The Riverside Business Hub is located on the second floor of the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce building located at 3985 University Avenue and is open to provide business services Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Riverside Business Resource Guide is available online to assist new and experienced business owners.

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#### **City of Riverside Community and Economic Development Department**

<u>The City of Riverside Community and Economic Development Department</u> collaborates with local partners to build a strong economy by supporting businesses, fostering job growth, boosting income, and driving investment. The Economic Development Division is dedicated to expanding, attracting, and retaining businesses, with the goal of making Riverside the most business-friendly city in California. Serving over 13,000 businesses, the department prioritizes comprehensive assistance, including a Concierge Service that offers a dedicated point of contact to streamline the permitting process for businesses and developers. Additional support is available through services such as site selection, licensing, permitting, and access to valuable resources.

#### **Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce**

<u>The Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce</u> is committed to helping local companies grow their business by taking the lead in programs and efforts that help create a strong local economy and make Riverside a great place to do business. As the leading advocate for business in the greater Riverside

area, the Chamber also works to create and sustain a favorable business environment where all businesses can grow and prosper.

## **Inland Empire Small Business Development Center**

The <u>Inland Empire SBDC</u> (IESBDC) seeks to provide assistance and connect small businesses to resources to succeed. The IESBDC offers a comprehensive array of services tailored to meet the diverse needs of small businesses, including business planning assistance, market research, financial analysis, access to capital, marketing strategies, and technology commercialization. Through one-on-one consulting, workshops, training programs, and networking opportunities, the center empowers entrepreneurs with the knowledge, skills, and resources needed to navigate challenges, capitalize on opportunities, and achieve sustainable growth.

## Women's Business Center

<u>The Women's Business Center's</u> mission is to empower the women of the Inland Empire to become successful and financially independent through entrepreneurship. At every stage of developing and expanding a successful business, the Inland Empire Women's Business Center is there to counsel, teach, encourage and inspire.