Helping African American Entrepreneurs Start & Grow Businesses

Entrepreneur-In-Residence Program

The Entrepreneur-In-Residence (EIR) program was created to ease some of the barriers African American business owners face when starting, growing, and stabilizing a business. The program requires a commitment of one day each week over the span of six months. Weekly assignments may take an additional 2-10 hours per week to complete.

Application eligibility:
- Business must be based in Stockton, CA
- Business is at least 51% African American owned
- Business is formally structured
- Must be full-time business owner
- In business for at least one year
- Not a construction or tech company

6-month program includes:
- 10 week business training with Uptima Boot Camp
- A network of business experts, resources, and program alumni
- Financial capital (if applicable)
- Professional mentorship
- Office space at Main Street Launch
- Monthly stipend

Main Street Launch has supported more than 170 African American small business owners.

“Main Street Launch offers so much knowledge and expertise that I know I can ask any question about my business and get great advice.”
Sherri McMullen
Owner of McMullen

“The resources Main Street offers seem unlimited. The staff have their doors open and everyone is able to help. This new support system we’ve developed feels like family.”
Ron and Rhonda Persons
Owners of Chef Ron’s Pastries

“My goal is to create more jobs and to help others build careers in this industry. The Entrepreneurs-In-Residence program is giving me the tools I need to achieve this goal.”
Fernay McPherson
Owner of Minnie Bell’s Soul Movement

Contact Us

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