

— AGRICULTURAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAMS —

Extension agricultural entrepreneurship programs include assistance in the technical and management operations of farmers markets and training in Beginning Farmers Programs for young farm families. In addition is access to Regional Food Hub Programs, a business model that connects producers with buyers. This is done by providing production, distribution and marketing services, providing increased consumer access to local food, expanded markets for local products, increased access to new buyers, increased producer income and reduced producer transportation and marketing costs.



USU EXTENSION IMPACTS: SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

EXTENSION
UtahStateUniversity

WINTER 2016

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Small businesses in Utah create most of the jobs and economic growth in the state. The SBDC program was created to help increase the rates of new small business growth and decrease the rates of their failure. The centers provide management assistance and training to new or existing business owners in such critical areas as marketing, planning and financial management. They also provide entrepreneurs access to capital by helping them work with banks and lending institutions as well as modified e-station or incubator facilities for fledgling new businesses. In addition, most centers are connected to the Governor's Office of Economic Development program for rural business outreach, which helps local officials direct resources to small businesses needing assistance. Together with other local and state economic development resources, SBDCs help local public and private institutions create entrepreneurial communities and an economic engine for growth and development.

USU has SBDCs at central campuses in Logan and Price and at regional campuses in Brigham City, Tooele, Vernal, Blanding and Moab.

— Marion Bentley, USU Extension business and economic development specialist

SBDC SUCCESS STORIES

ONRUCAS MOBILE SOLUTIONS

Onrucas Mobile Solutions is a software solution that allows a business manager to plan, schedule, track and confirm business processes. Originally it was created to focus on the energy industry, but the application can also be applied to any other business. Owner James Bird needed help with sales and support, and his attorney suggested that he meet with Mark Holmes, director of the Vernal SBDC.

"Holmes was very helpful," said Bird. "Along with some great suggestions, he provided me with a business plan template to formulate my business from every angle. He also helped me with a cash flow projection to help forecast payables, receivables and future profits."

With the help of SBDC, Bird started a "mastermind" group consisting of entrepreneurs who get together to network and share ideas.



"The SBDC catapulted me through many of the learning curves you go through as a new business owner." — James Bird

EPIK SOLUTIONS

Dawnell and Blake Collins opened Epik Solutions in Blanding in July of 2013. They established a method to negotiate with companies and clients before taking them to court for non-payment, allowing customers to pay off debts with lower interest without affecting their credit.

Because of the resources of the Blanding Small Business Development Center and the help of Tim Chamberlain, business advisor of the SBDC, they have hired six full-time employees, with plans to hire 35 more. The SBDC provided them with a variety of trainings, especially money management fundamentals needed to fund, market and grow a business.



Utah Lt. Governor Spencer J. Cox presenting 2014 SBDC Network Client of the Year Award to Epik Solutions owners Dawnell and Blake Collins.

SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE

2014 USU EXTENSION SBDC IMPACTS

CAPITAL INFUSION	\$31,837,300
SALES INCREASE	\$22,157,448
JOB CREATION	230
BUSINESS STARTS	39
TOTAL CLIENTS	838
AVE. HOURS PER CLIENT	5.95
COUNSELING HOURS	5,543

SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS

SBDCs provide management assistance to current and prospective small business owners. Counseling and training are provided to clients, generally free of charge. The program at Utah State University is a cooperative partnership of the private sector, USU Extension and federal, state and local governments. The seven USU Extension SBDC offices are part of a larger network of 12 SBDCs located at colleges and universities throughout Utah. SBDCs have become valuable resources for local economic development initiatives.

BUSINESS RESOURCE CENTERS

BRCs provide coordination of business support, education, tracking of clients, access to sources of funding, training, technical expertise, talent and networking for new and existing businesses. Most BRCs are co-located with SBDCs and provide support to rural business development programs.

Start-up and small business assistance is provided to international refugees through a joint USU Extension and **International Rescue Center** project in Salt Lake County. This partnership includes the Microbusiness Connection Center and small business curriculum development and training.

RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Through the Area Sector Analysis Process (ASAP), rural communities receive assistance in achieving targeted, sustainable economic development. This is done by identifying several things, including community goals and priorities for economic development; community assets that will help achieve the community's goals and priorities;

ASAP ASSISTS BY IDENTIFYING:

- COMMUNITY GOALS
- INDUSTRY NEEDS
- PRIORITIES FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
- FACTORS FOR LOCATING COMMUNITY
- COMMUNITY ASSETS
- COMPATIBLE BUSINESSES

industry needs and factors important for locating operations in a community; and businesses that are compatible with the community's goals and priorities.

"ASAP is designed to help guide community change in a way that is positive and reflective of the community values."

The Governor's Office of Economic Development recently awarded USU-Moab a grant for local economic development, which gives local leaders in Moab City and Grand County the opportunity to create a "community driven" economic development plan using ASAP.

MICROBUSINESS CONNECTION CENTER



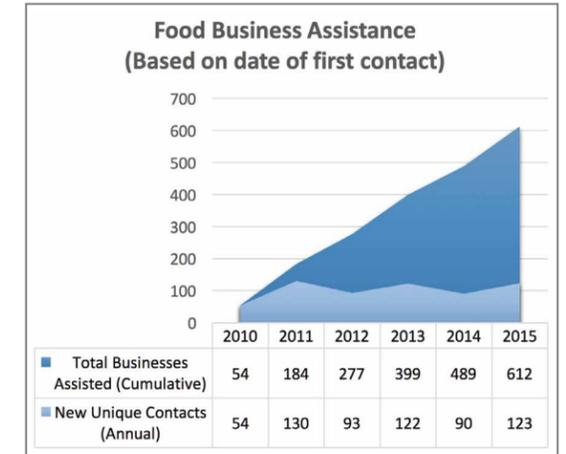
The Microbusiness Connection Center (MCC) is a partnership of Salt Lake County Extension, the USU Salt Lake City Regional Campus, International Refugee Center and Extension Business and Economic Development. The MCC provides training to refugees primarily from Northern and Central Africa and the Middle East in starting and running their own Utah business. A refugee training center with computer labs, a kitchen incubator and technical training provides assistance for startups in food production, child care and other ventures.

Beatrice, Congo, Best African Boutique

"Being a business owner changed my life. It was hard to begin, but now I've had it for four years. I am a single mother. My business helps Africans feel comfortable, and feel like they are back home. I appreciate the refugee community for shopping at my store and helping build my business."

FOOD BUSINESS PROGRAMS

Food quality and entrepreneurship activities focus on helping consumers, entrepreneurs and existing businesses with food production and quality of start-up food businesses throughout the state. They include training and hands-on counseling to understand and apply state and federal food quality regulations. Activities also include product labeling and packaging, the use of kitchen incubator facilities in Cache and Salt Lake counties and marketing through Utah's Own and other retail and wholesale outlets.



Number of Utah-based food companies helped over the last several years

MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP

CLIENTS RELATE MEP ASSISTANCE TO:

- INCREASED SALES
- RETAINED SALES
- COST SAVINGS
- PLANT EQUIPMENT INVESTMENTS
- INFORMATION INVESTMENTS
- WORKFORCE PRACTICES
- NEW PRODUCTS AND PROCESSES
- JOB CREATION
- JOB RETENTION
- ASSOCIATED SALES

The Manufacturing Extension Partnership of Utah (MEP) is the affiliated center for the National Institute of Standards and Technology for the state of Utah. MEP is a partnership and joint venture of USU and Utah Valley University. USU houses and is responsible for the operational component of MEP, a network of circuit-riding engineers that provides assistance statewide to small and medium-sized manufacturing firms and helps employers modernize their operations and become more competitive, productive and efficient. Impacts collected from clients include such outcome factors as increased sales, cost savings, plant equipment investments and job creation.



2013: MEP UTAH TOTAL IMPACTS

69
Manufacturing Clients Served

3,661
Jobs (created or retained)

\$188.3 MILLION
Additional Employee Wages

\$18.7 MILLION
Additional State Tax Revenue