

Entrepreneurship and Innovation Contract

Monthly Update

September 1, 2020



Monthly Metrics:

- We served **28** Fayetteville entrepreneurs through **28** 1:1 high quality free consulting, mentoring, counseling, training, support, and assistance engagements
 - **11** women owned ventures through these 1:1 engagements
 - **7** minority owned ventures through these 1:1 engagements
 - **3** veteran owned ventures through these 1:1 engagements
 - Companies like Mockingbird Kitchen
- **12** Event, Workshop, and Program engagements for Fayetteville entrepreneurs serving nearly **606** attendees

Monthly Progress Highlights:

- In partnership with the City, continued to lead CoVid-19 task force and emergency management and disaster response regarding the small business and startup community
- Continued ALL events virtual and kept our event cadence very high despite the CoVid-19 circumstances.
- Led and supported virtual events ranging from “Inexpensive Tech Tools for Startups” to “Mental Health for Entrepreneurs” – providing maximum education and inspiration opportunities to Fayetteville entrepreneurs when they needed it the most through three virtual sessions.
- Continued regular announcements relaying the latest federal and state aid updates for small businesses, and in doing so responded to hundreds of inquires from small businesses working with them on the mechanics and details of each (Cares Act, EIDL, and AEDC programs and incentives).
- Continued to spend significant time and effort in 1:1 virtual no-cost consulting sessions with small business owners dealing with the existential issues due to CoVid-19.

Monthly Progress Highlights:

- Continued support of the City's Outdoor Refreshment Area initiative. Critical to helping drive business to our local small businesses while helping mitigate CoVid-19.
- Continued work on the Spectrum Living Solutions project to advance the progress on this critical project.
- Continued advocating to Congressional, Federal, and State authorities for key programs and incentives to support the small business and startup community during CoVid-19.
- Led Ark Angel Alliance August Meeting- providing increased early stage capital access to Fayetteville entrepreneurs (ex. Fayetteville venture WattGlass presented to this meeting)