

**Women's Innovation Network
Community Resources Seminar
May 17, 2022**



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UNIVERSITY OF
OREGON

Office of the Vice President
for Research and Innovation

Onward Eugene

Website: [Onward Eugene](#)

Mission Statement: Prosperity for All

About: We are intentional about being inclusive in our programming and we approach our work through a lens of equity. Onward strives to strengthen the broad entrepreneurial ecosystem by providing a full suite of no-cost programs for companies at all life cycle stages: concept, startup, and growth stage. Our primary focus is on early-stage startups.

Our programs build the pipeline of entrepreneurs by expanding programs beyond the “high growth traded sector” to other small businesses that have growth potential, in partnership with the Lane Small Business Development Center. This includes programs that reach out to communities of underserved populations, specifically women and people of color. Our pre-accelerator and accelerator function as a means of delivering entrepreneurship education through training programs and offer access to mentors, networking, and funding.

We have many programs and educational events that foster entrepreneurship and help people understand how to consider getting started in a small business. We have created an innovation hub at 942 Olive Street that combines a physical space with cross-discipline programs: accelerator programs, an incubator, and launch-stage programs. We have developed a deep pool of mentors that share their expertise at the concept stage through post-accelerator stages. Access to capital is a significant issue in our region, and we continue to build relationships with regional seed funds to focus a portion of their investments in our markets.

Programs: Onward’s programs include ID8, which is an 8-week introduction to startup concepts that supports aspiring entrepreneurs craft business models which are ready to develop into detailed business plans.

EUG Launchpad Accelerator: Complimentary to ID8, our EUG Launchpad program helps entrepreneurs advance ideas and business models. Based on the Disciplined Entrepreneur curriculum developed at MIT, the EUG Launchpad program leads participants through 24 sequential steps from the identification of their initial “beachhead” market to their first sales into that market.

Next cohort begins July 13, 2022 | Wednesdays 5 pm – 7 pm for 12 consecutive weeks

Classes are held at the Innovation Hub at 942 Olive St.

Pitch Competition at Graduation | Free Childcare

Apply by emailing caitlinv@onwardeugene.org

Eugene Chamber of Commerce

Website: [Eugene Area Chamber of Commerce](#)

Mission Statement: The mission of the Eugene Area Chamber of Commerce is to serve as a catalytic leader in creating a vibrant and diverse economy that drives economic opportunity and well-being.

Our Values:

Lead: We are strategic thinkers with bold ideas. We are catalysts for positive community change and push boundaries with creative solutions.

Innovate: We are curious and open-minded. We are not afraid to bypass the easy and safe for a different but better way to serve our members and community.

Engage: We pay attention, and we participate in the hard conversations. We are intentional about including diverse voices, building relationships, and empowering others to play a role in creating the best community possible.

Impact: We are solution-oriented and relentlessly optimistic. We work collectively as business leaders to solve the challenges facing our community.

Many of our programs are listed on our [Get Involved page on the Eugene Chamber site!](#)

Networking: Eugene Area Chamber Events Calendar: [Event Calendar](#)

EID: [Endeavor Eugene](#)

Endeavor - Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity Programming and Resources

Join us as we ENDEAVOR to build a more welcoming community where Black, Indigenous and people of color (BIPOC) individuals feel like they belong and are valued. We will do this work by assisting businesses in creating more inclusive and diverse workplaces, using our resources to assist BIPOC business and community leaders to help them succeed, and celebrate the diverse individuals and ideas present in our region.

Women Business Leaders: [Women Business Leaders - Eugene Chamber of Commerce](#)

The Women Business Leaders Program aims to educate and excite aspiring women leaders while offering support on a variety of issues that women might face on any given day. The WBL Committee is dedicated to uplifting the voices of female leaders through the scheduling of speakers and planning of luncheons.

Homelessness:

Homelessness Support and Resources for Businesses: [Resources - Eugene Chamber of Commerce](#)

Eugene Chamber State of Homelessness Report: [Homelessness & Public Safety - Eugene Chamber of Commerce](#)

Talent and Leadership Development:

[Talent & Leadership Development - Eugene Chamber of Commerce](#)

Supporting the development, retention and attraction of a qualified regional labor force is essential to the success and growth of the regional economy. Working with employers, regional partners and education institutions—we develop strategies and programs to build and strengthen our current and future workforce.

Eugene Young Professionals: [Eugene Young Professionals](#)

The Eugene YP Council is a dynamic group of young leaders committed to the positive growth of the community, the YP group, and its members.

Eugene Area Chamber Membership: [Become a Member - Eugene Chamber of Commerce](#)

Springfield Chamber of Commerce

Website: [Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce](#)

Mission: Fostering a prosperous community by strengthening, representing, and promoting business.

Core Tenets and Strategic Initiatives

MODEL EXCELLENCE

Brand Ambassadorship / Chamber Home / Strategic Foresight

Leading by example, the Chamber embraces excellence in every aspect of the organization, both internally and externally, with staff, members, and partners; in its programs, initiatives, and advocacy efforts. By modeling excellence, we seek to be a gainful partner and inspire the same throughout our community.

FOSTER BUSINESS VITALITY

Business Resource Hub / Business Advocacy

The Chamber is a trusted convener and provider of business resources. We recognize the systemic interdependencies of a healthy economy and provide an ear and a voice for local business at the confluence of government, commerce, and community.

CULTIVATE TALENT

WorkReady / Leadership Development

Our organization plays a vital role in leadership development and workforce readiness. We understand and appreciate diversity and seek to optimize talent in all forms to ensure economic vitality, economic opportunity, and quality of life.

Small Business Solutions Hub: The Small Business Solutions Hub is a digital resource designed to connect small business Chamber members to a network of local experts and partners, business advising services, and a library of Chamber education tools. The hub will evolve to meet local needs with quarterly business education programming, and information from local investor partners.

[Small Business Solutions Hub - Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Event Calendar | Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce](#)

Regional Accelerator & Innovation Network (RAIN)

Website: [Oregon RAIN](#)

Mission Statement:

To partner with communities to:

- Catalyze entrepreneurial ecosystems
- Connect entrepreneurs to resources (including overlooked entrepreneurs)
- Contribute to the creation of prosperous economies

About us:

We are [a team](#) of Entrepreneurial Ecosystem-Builders (known as Venture Catalysts) – which means we take a system-level view of the entrepreneurship and innovation assets in a community and region, connect entrepreneurs and innovators to key resources, and work with partners to fill gaps where necessary in order to help elevate the entire ecosystem and enable a culture of possibilities.

Our philosophy:

- Led by entrepreneurs
- Have a long-term commitment to the entrepreneurial ecosystem
- Inclusive of anyone who wants to participate
- Engage the entire entrepreneurial stack with activities

Slideshow:

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1d5jt7HusVN4n9occVpSo6PvXybdB4RCWVcezQjvlyzY/edit?usp=sharing>

Lane Small Business Development Center (SBDC)

Website: [Lane SBDC](#)

Mission: Helping Build Oregon's Best Businesses

Vision: The Lane SBDC is Lane County's preeminent provider of effective and innovative business advising and training services.

About us:

We provide business and entrepreneurial education services, in the form of classes and workshops and advising

The story of Lane Community College Small Business Development Center (Lane SBDC) begins in 1983 when Oregon was added to America's SBDC network. The network, having been established nearly 10 years earlier, was intended to assist small business men and women who wanted to improve their lives through America's free enterprise system. To this day that mission continues.

Today Lane SBDC is hosted by Lane Community College's downtown campus located in Eugene, Oregon. We are committed to providing no-cost advising as well as real world training to new and existing small businesses. Our 6 advisors and instructors are all experienced entrepreneurs with a wealth of wisdom behind them. We also have Spanish translation services for our Spanish speaking clients.

¡Hablamos español!

We have helped countless business owners over the last few decades become successful. Let us be a part of YOUR success story!

Our advisers provide **free, confidential**, one-on-one business advising, that will help you explore opportunities while overcoming challenges.

By assisting innovative entrepreneurs, we are committed to seeing our small business community thrive. As our client, you gain access to powerful research tools and insights that are often reserved for much larger companies.

Knowledge is power. Whether you choose a basic workshop or an advanced course, our world-class providers from a variety of business disciplines are here to assist you.