



Investing in the growth
of small business

MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ECDI Announces Social Enterprise Hub

Tailored services and special loan funding to assist social entrepreneurs grow their business, community impact

(COLUMBUS, OH) – **ECDI** has established a new **Social Enterprise Hub** and special loan funding program, offering tailored services and resources to assist the unique needs of new and existing social enterprise organizations (for-profit and nonprofit) committed to doing good in the Columbus community.

In addition to business education and mentoring offered via the Social Enterprise (SE) Hub program, ECDI is offering a new SE loan program. The affordable loan offering will narrow the funding gap for underserved and underbanked social entrepreneurs with loans from \$10,000 to \$150,000. Funding will be available for for-profit companies, and nonprofit organizations who have operated for three years, and can demonstrate the impact of their social mission.

“The SE Hub and loan program bolster our commitment to supporting entrepreneurs,” said ECDI Founder and CEO, Inna Kinney. “Empowering mission-driven small businesses – especially those committed to reducing barriers for vulnerable populations who often face significant obstacles securing employment – is a way to increase our positive impact in the communities we serve.”

The Social Enterprise Hub serves established, start-up, for-profit and nonprofit social enterprises, providing members with the following:

- Access to subsidized office space and professional amenities
- Affordable start-up or expansion capital
- Access to mentoring through ECDI’s existing social enterprises and partnering organizations
- Access to the Social Enterprise Hub Program Director who provides technical assistance through individualized business plan development, contract procurement services, and access to social enterprise community resources throughout Central Ohio
- Access to consultants in specialized fields including legal, HR, marketing/social media, finance, and others
- Access to workforce development partners and social service providers to reduce barriers of sustained employment

For more information about ECDI’s offerings for social entrepreneurs, please visit www.ecdi.org/social-enterprise

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ABOUT ECDI:

ECDI is a nonprofit organization, dedicated to assuring underserved and underbanked entrepreneurs – regardless of where they came from, where they live, their gender or their race – have access to funding and a range of business incubation services they need to succeed. Based in Columbus, with offices in Cleveland, Cincinnati, Akron, Canton, Toledo, and Portsmouth, we are a one-stop resource center, serving small businesses in Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana. As the nation’s top SBA microloan intermediary, a certified Community Development Corporation, and Treasury-designated Community Development Financial Institution, we are proud to have assisted more than 284,000 individuals, disbursed more than \$92 million through more than 4,000 loans, and created and retained more than 13,000 jobs since 2004. Learn more at www.ecdi.org.