

# List of Business Resources

## Local financing options

*Glenwood Telephone* – (402) 756-4746, email: [info@shopglenwood.net](mailto:info@shopglenwood.net)

Businesses that qualify for USDA Rural Economic Development Loans and Grants (REDLG) can work with Glenwood as they are a telecommunication Rural Utility Service. The grant would be awarded to Glenwood who would then serve as the pass through of funds. The funds would then ultimately be passed on to the business in need that has partnered with Glenwood to complete their eligible activity.

<https://www.shopglenwood.net/locations/blue-hill/>

## *Tax Increment Financing*

The City adopted the Blight & Substandard Study and General Redevelopment Plan in 2017 and a Community Development Authority was created. In doing so, the City opened the door to the possibility of using TIF in the Redevelopment Area for acceptable projects.

## *Keno Community Betterment Grant*

The local business support program offered is the Keno Community Betterment Grant. Any business or organization seeking assistance to better the community, keeping in line with the regulations set forth in the Nebraska County and City Lottery Act, can apply during the yearly grant cycle by submitting an application prior to the deadline. The recipients in 2016 were the Blue Hill Community Club, Blue Hill Pool Committee, and the Blue Hill Fitness Center.

## Regional financing options

*South Central Economic Development District, Inc. (SCEDD)* – Executive Director: Sharon Hueftle, (308) 455-4770, email: [sharonh@scedd.us](mailto:sharonh@scedd.us)

SCEDD has a revolving loan fund available for eligible small businesses in the District, to which Palmer and Merrick County belongs.

<http://www.scedd.us/>

*Center for Rural Affairs /Rural Enterprise Assistance Program (REAP)* – South Central Region Loan Specialist: Dena Beck, (308) 528-0060, email: [denab@cfra.org](mailto:denab@cfra.org)

REAP offers the financing option of micro-loans to eligible businesses.

<http://www.cfra.org/reap>

*United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development (USDA RD)* – Business Programs Specialist: Kelley Messenger, (308) 455-9837, email: [kelley.messenger@ne.usda.gov](mailto:kelley.messenger@ne.usda.gov)

The financial programs offered by USDA RD promote economic development through loans to businesses provided through banks, credit unions, and community-managed lending pools.

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/programs-services-businesses>

*Central Community College* – SBI Coordinator: Don Hulme, (402) 461-2461, email:

[hhulme@cccneb.edu](mailto:hhulme@cccneb.edu)

Central Community College established the Small Business Institute to provide financial assistance to aid in the startup of a new business and to provide loan funding to existing businesses.

<http://www.cccneb.edu/small-business-incubator/>

*Nebraska Enterprise Fund – (402) 685-5500, email: [nef@nebbiz.org](mailto:nef@nebbiz.org)*

Nebraska Enterprise Fund provides various lending options to small and micro-businesses to support their capital needs and growth. These programs include: direct lending, GAP financing, invoice financing, loan guarantees, and intermediary lending.

<http://nebbiz.org/business-resources/loan-products>

*Small Business Administration – Nebraska District Office, (402) 221-4691, email:*

[michael.foutch@sba.gov](mailto:michael.foutch@sba.gov)

Small Business Administration provides the following funding opportunities: general small business loans, disaster loans, microloans, real estate & equipment loans.

<https://www.sba.gov/loans-grants>

*Nebraska Economic Development Corporation – Loan Officer: Will Sailors, (402) 483-4622, email:*

[will@nedcoloans.org](mailto:will@nedcoloans.org)

Provides assistance with SBA 504 loans to small business owners in Nebraska. These loans can help finance new infrastructures and repair existing establishments.

## **Business and Entrepreneurial Assistance**

*South Central Economic Development District, Inc. (SCEDD) – Executive Director: Sharon Hueftle, (308) 455-4770, email: [sharonh@scedd.us](mailto:sharonh@scedd.us)*

SCEDD staff provides technical support to businesses in all phases of development, including business start-up, business expansion or retention, or business succession.

<http://www.scedd.us/>

*Nebraska Department of Economic Development (DED) – Business Development Consultant/Central Region: Kelly Gewecke, (308) 627-3151, email: [kelly.gewecke@nebraska.gov](mailto:kelly.gewecke@nebraska.gov)*

DED is the official lead economic development agency for Nebraska. The Business Development Division provides direct assistance to businesses, while also providing assistance to communities with business and economic development programs and recruiting businesses to the state.

<https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/start-your-business/>

<https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/expand-your-business/>

<https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/move-your-business/>

*University of Nebraska – Lincoln Extension – Community Vitality Initiative Education: Ben Dutton, (308)*

*345-3390, email: [ben.dutton@unl.edu](mailto:ben.dutton@unl.edu)*

UNL Extension offers connections to resource providers for business assistance. The Community Vitality Initiative is a UNL Extension program that focuses on working with resource providers and programs to help grow businesses.

[https://epd.unl.edu/county.php?county\\_fips\\_id=83](https://epd.unl.edu/county.php?county_fips_id=83)

*Nebraska Business Development Center – Business Consultant: Sara Bennett, (308) 382-9210, email: [benettsa2@unk.edu](mailto:benettsa2@unk.edu)*

Nebraska Business Development Center provides technical assistance for businesses through financial planning, aiding in the development of loan applications and proposals to various funding sources, completing business plans, and many other vital services that promote

economic growth.

<https://www.unomaha.edu/nebraska-business-development-center/index.php>

*Center for Rural Affairs /Rural Enterprise Assistance Program (REAP) – South Central Region Loan Specialist: Dena Beck, (308) 528-0060, email: [denab@cfra.org](mailto:denab@cfra.org)* Through business training, technical assistance, and networking, REAP strengthens rural communities through small, self-employed business development.

<http://www.cfra.org/reap>

*United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development (USDA RD) – Business Programs*

*Specialist: Kelley Messenger, (308) 455-9837, email: [kelley.messenger@ne.usda.gov](mailto:kelley.messenger@ne.usda.gov)*

USDA RD offers technical assistance and information to help agricultural producers and cooperatives start their businesses and improve the overall effectiveness of their operations.

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/programs-services-businesses>

*Nebraska Enterprise Fund - (402) 685-5500, email: [nef@nebbiz.org](mailto:nef@nebbiz.org)*

Nebraska Enterprise Fund provides business acceleration training, business acumen workshops, and one-on-one mentoring with cash flow analysis, market planning, and business planning.

<http://nebbiz.org/business-resources/training-and-mentoring>

*Small Business Administration – Nebraska District Office, (402) 221-4691, email:*

*[michael.foutch@sba.gov](mailto:michael.foutch@sba.gov)*

Small Business Administration assists with business planning, launching a business, business management, and business expansion.

<https://www.sba.gov/business-guide>

*GROW Nebraska – (308) 493-5394*

Grow Nebraska provides business training, technical assistance, promotion, and access to markets. Grow Nebraska also provides free training that is open to the public and is known as Third Thursday Training. Grow Nebraska also hosts the MarkeTech Conference to inform attendees of how to integrate marketing and technology into their business strategy.

<http://www.grownebraska.org/about-us/awards-and-accomplishments/grow-nebraska-serves/>

*SCORE Central Nebraska – (402) 817-3822*

SCORE provides business assistance for startups, current businesses, or business owners looking to transition out/retire. Business owners are paired with a mentor to receive business advice. SCORE also hosts workshops covering topics from marketing, finance and accounting, management, and more. SCORE also provides free tools to business owners that vary from local business templates, guides, current blogs, and other various resource tools.

<https://centralnebraska.score.org/>

*Women’s Business Center – Monica Braun, (402-687-2100), email: [monicab@cfra.org](mailto:monicab@cfra.org)*

The Women’s Business Center is part of REAP. The Women’s Business Center provides specialists that provide training and outreach to rural women entrepreneurs. Other services provided include connecting to resources to launch a business, business expansion, and getting into the global marketplace.

<https://www.cfra.org/reap/wbc>