

"The Santa Fe Entrepreneurial Ecosystem"

New Entrepreneurial Resource Guide for Small Businesses Navigating Economic Recovery

Santa Fe County and City Collaborate to Map Business-support Organizations

APRIL 14, 2021 — For enterprises to open, grow, and adapt as society begins to recover from the pandemic, small business owners and start-up entrepreneurs need to know what resources exist and where to find them. Available business support comes in many forms: mentorship, accelerators, training, incubators, technical expertise, and funding.

Taking a page from The Kauffman Foundation's playbook -- "Strong ecosystems allow entrepreneurs to quickly find knowledge and resources they need to succeed" --Economic Development staff from Santa Fe County and City partnered to create a website where statewide and local entrepreneurial resources are housed under one virtual roof: <u>The Santa Fe Entrepreneurial Ecosystem</u>.

While the City and County's economic development newsletters connect businesspeople to timely COVID news, provisional grants, and events, the Santa Fe Entrepreneurial Ecosystem houses information about organizations that offer ongoing support. Resources and industries are broken down into subcategories to make it easy to navigate.

City Economic and Community Development Director Rich Brown says: "Santa Fe's economy is made up of many micro-businesses. We seek to connect them with a diversity of programming and support, mostly free of cost, to help recover, stabilize, and grow with resiliency as we emerge from this economic crisis. This guide seeks to strengthen and diversify our local economy by supporting existing businesses as well as start-ups."

Santa Fe County Community Development Director Joseph Montoya says: "Finding and accessing resources and support services for your business can be difficult and time consuming. Working together, the City and County of Santa Fe hope to make it easier for local businesses to access and learn about the variety of resources that exist to strengthen their business through the development and deployment of the new entrepreneurial and small business resource guide."

The City and County relied upon technical assistance from Los Alamos National Laboratory for the development of the ecosystem, and the lab will continue to collaborate in the future.

Organizations can submit and modify their information through a <u>survey</u>. The partners will review and update the site with the survey results every six months.

Interested parties can subscribe to:

- Santa Fe County's economic development newsletter
- The City of Santa Fe economic development newsletter

Visit <u>alltogethersantafe.org</u> for community, workforce, business, and health resources.

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