



Minority & Small Business Resource Fair Event Recap February 15th 2024



Sponsored by:



Thank you!

Thank you to everyone that made the 2024 Minority & Small Business Resource Fair such a success! It is our goal at [Venture Access](#) to help our local entrepreneurs formulate, launch, and grow their small businesses by highlighting community resources. In the pages below you will find more information on our vendors and speakers so you can continue to make connections and grow your business. This is an interactive guide; click on vendors and speakers to learn more about them!

Venture Access, powered by the Harford County Chamber of Commerce and Harford County Office of Economic Development, provides consulting and business resources to aspiring entrepreneurs and small business owners. We want to help you succeed! [Connect with us](#) and receive local resources, access to events, and more.

Thank you again to our partners: the [Harford County Chamber of Commerce](#), [Harford County Office of Economic Development](#), and the [Harford County Caucus of African American Leaders](#). Thank you again to our headlining sponsor: [APG Federal Credit Union](#), and to the [APGFCU Arena](#) for hosting the event and providing refreshments.

Stay Connected:



[Event Photos](#)




[Keynote Presentation](#)



info@ventureaccess.org



It's not about the size of your business, it's the size of your dream.

And our team is here to help  make it a reality.

With personalized attention, tailored products and access to decision makers. We're here to help your business achieve, prosper and grow. We're local, we're not-for-profit and we're totally dedicated to the most important business in the world: **yours.**

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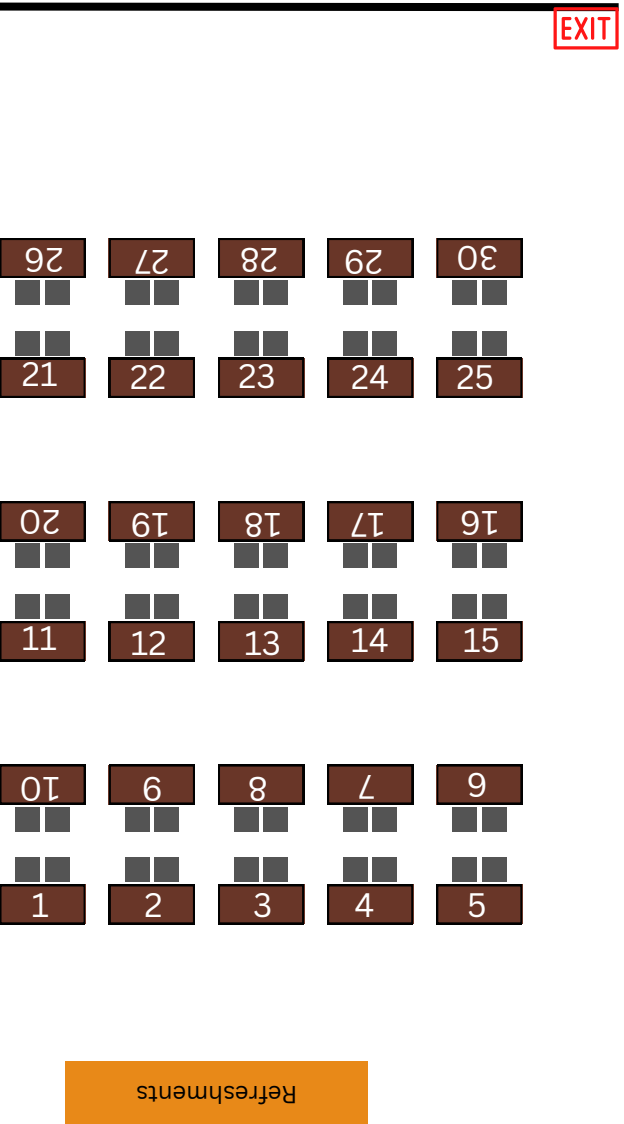
Membership eligibility applies. Loans subject to credit approval.

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Welcome to Minority & Small Business Resource Fair

Vendors:

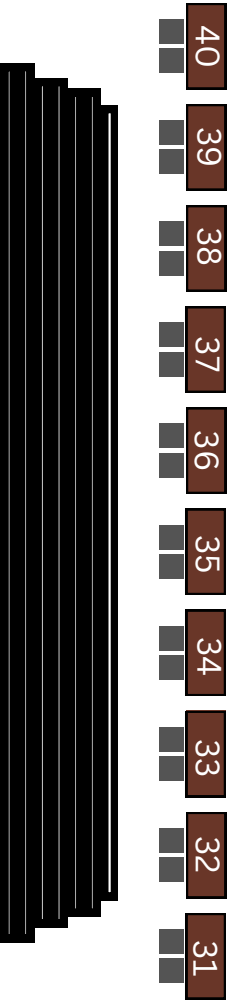
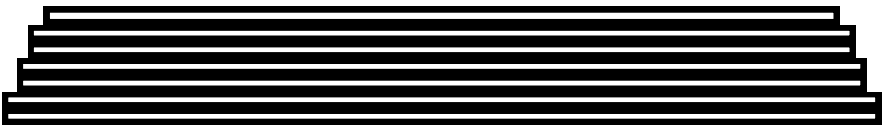
1. Harford County Chamber of Commerce
2. Harford County Office of Economic Development
3. Harford County Caucus of African American Leaders
4. Small Business Development Center
5. U.S. Small Business Administration
6. Harford County Chapter of the NAACP
7. Susquehanna Workforce Network
8. Town of Bel Air
9. Project Opportunity
10. Baltimore Community Lending
11. Harford Haven Studio
12. Image 360
13. M&T Bank
14. Beacon Staffing Alternatives
15. Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses
16. Maryland Insurance Administration
17. Harford Community College
18. Supporting Strategies
19. Maryland Department of Transportation
20. Freedom Federal Credit Union
21. Harford County Department of Community Services
22. WorkPerx Insurance
23. Ganvir Law
24. Jarrettsville Federal Savings & Loan
25. Real Accounting Solutions
26. Point Breeze Credit Union
27. Zimmerman & Associates CPAs
28. HAR-CO Credit Union
29. AAG Insurance Enterprise
30. G.S. Woods Financial Solutions
31. APPGFCU
32. APPGFCU Arena at Harford Community College
33. Harford Bank
34. Truist
35. Wells Fargo
36. Maryland Minority Business Directory



Refreshments

Stage

Breakout Sessions & Key Note Address



Elevator

Restrooms

Registration

Meet the Speakers!

Click on each speaker to connect



BONNIE BARRESI

Business Funding - As a Business Development Associate for Harford County's Office of Economic Development, Bonnie assists small businesses of all stages by acting as a conduit to local, state, federal, and non-profit resources. In addition, she administers the county's small loan fund and Workforce Technical Training Grant, while also hosting a Small Business Essentials workshop series to provide educational seminars on varying topics to small business owners.



NATALIE PIXLEY

Marketing on a \$0 Budget - Natalie is the Director of Strategic Partnerships for the Harford County Chamber of Commerce and Co-Owner of Iron Rose Fencing alongside of her husband. With 6 years in nonprofit and small business marketing, Natalie leverages her experience as a marketer and a small business owner to optimize digital marketing without spending a dime.

[View the Presentation](#) →



KEVIN EWING JR.

Creating & Leveraging your Business Network - Kevin Ewing, Jr., is a distinguished photographer and owner of Harford Haven Studio, where creativity meets professionalism. With an exceptional eye for detail, Kevin excels in capturing life's moments, turning them into lasting memories, and mentoring emerging talents in the photography realm. His expertise in building a thriving business network is rooted in a deep understanding of artistic collaboration and community engagement.



MEGAN EWING

Megan Ewing is the Studio Manager at Harford Haven Studio and a seasoned consultant for entrepreneurs, specializing in optimizing business systems and processes. Her approach seamlessly blends efficiency with innovation, ensuring that businesses not only run smoothly but also adapt and grow in today's dynamic market. Megan's insight into creating and nurturing business networks is invaluable to those looking to elevate their entrepreneurial journey.



BRYAN LAING

Business Plan Basics - Bryan is the Training Director and Business Consultant for the Maryland Small Business Development Center, guiding entrepreneurs through the very first stages of starting a business. Bryan is also an educator, helping to develop the next generation of business professionals.

[View the Presentation](#) →



SHARI BAILEY

Keynote Speaker - Shari Bailey, founder of Laila's Gift.

The motivation behind this nonprofit organization is driven by her passion to help families get the support and relief they need, inspired by her twin daughters (Lana and Laila). With over 20 years of progressive global leadership experience in the healthcare manufacturing industry, she has gained a better understanding on the needs of the patient population, and their therapeutic essentials.

Helping bring dozens of products to the market through various organizations she has been affiliated with, she is also driven to bring one of the most important to the community, a mission to help advocate for, support, and celebrate children with special needs and their families by providing resources and inclusion tools for children with diverse needs.

Backed by an undergraduate in Business Management, a Master of Science in Medical Device Quality Management, and varying certifications including Project Management Professional, Six Sigma Black Belt, and Certified Auditor, she is not only equipped with the teaching to effectively organize and manage the mission, but most importantly, her real-life training as a mom of twin girls (one of them being special needs) has brought her the most education of all.

[Watch the Presentation](#) 



LAILA'S GIFT
Celebrating One Gift at a Time