



December 15, 2016

Council Connections

Bridging Allegany, Garrett and Washington Counties



Tri County Council
For Western Maryland

In This Issue

[December is National Write a Business Plan Month](#)

Dates to Remember

**Thursday
December 22, 2016
2:00pm SBA Webinar
What the Healthcare Law
Means for Your Small
Business**

Registration is required.
[Free online registration.](#)

**Thursday, January 26, 2017
6:00pm - 9:00pm
Friday, January 27, 2017
8:00am - 9:30am
Mountain Maryland
PACE Reception
Loews Annapolis Hotel
<https://mtmarylandpace.com/>**



December is National Write a Business Plan Month

A business plan is an essential roadmap for business success. This living document generally projects 3-5 years ahead and outlines the route a company intends to take to grow revenues.

Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs) provide assistance to small businesses and aspiring entrepreneurs. SBDCs help entrepreneurs realize the dream of business ownership and help existing businesses remain competitive in a complex, ever-changing global marketplace. SBDCs are hosted by leading universities and state economic development agencies, and funded in part through a partnership with **U.S. Small Business Administration.**

SBDC advisors provide aspiring and current small business owners a variety of free business consulting and low-cost training services including: business plan development, manufacturing assistance, financial packaging and lending assistance, exporting and importing support, disaster recovery assistance, procurement and contracting aid, market research help, 8(a) program support, and healthcare guidance.

The Western Region of the Maryland SBDC regional headquarters is located at Frostburg State University. Consultants are located in **Garrett, Allegany, Washington, and Frederick** Counties, to help in regional economic development by assisting small businesses get started and grow. Training classes are offered in each county that teach small business owners



Join our mailing list

Notice of Funding Availability

After-School Arts and Humanities Programs for Underserved Youth

Recognizing excellence in after-school and out-of-school arts and humanities programs for underserved children and youth.

These programs offer high-quality and intensive instruction on weekends, afternoons, and summer vacations, providing a safe and productive space for young people in the hours when they are often the most vulnerable. Twelve winners will receive a \$10,000 award. Programs initiated by museums, libraries, performing arts organizations, schools and universities, arts centers, community service organizations, and government agencies are encouraged to apply. Visit online by following the link above for complete details. **Application deadline is February 8, 2017.**

what they need to do to start and grow small their own small business. One of the specialties is assisting clients obtain traditional financing. Last year, the western region assisted in the closing of over \$12 million dollars in local financing.

Visit [online](#) for all the Western Region SBDC has to offer.



The **U.S. Small Business Administration** works with a number of local partners to counsel, mentor, and train small businesses including the **Small Business Development Center**.

Visit [online](#) for more details to **Create Your Business Plan** as well as access to [Resource Guides](#) and more.

