



**HAPPY NEW MONTH BBE FAMILY!**



**HAPPY  
NEW  
MONTH**  
*February*



[www.blackbusinessenterprises.org](http://www.blackbusinessenterprises.org)

February invites us to pause, reset, and get clear on what's next. Whether you need a sharper strategy, help finding the right resources, or a trusted thought partner as you move through the year, we're here for it. You don't have to do it alone.

Connect with us to find out how we can help you.

[BOOK A CALL](#)



A big shoutout to all the BBE members celebrating their birthdays in February! While you're busy building, don't forget to pause, make a wish, and enjoy a little cake (or rest).

Cheers to another year of growth, joy, and well-earned wins!

New address? New number or just brand new you? Don't ghost us - drop your updated membership info [here](#).

# Exciting News!!!

**BBE**  
BLACK BUSINESS  
ENTERPRISES

## OUR APP IS LIVE!

↓ **DOWNLOAD**

Google Play App Store

Get to **connect, grow, thrive and enjoy the community** like never before!  
We bring you **exclusive resources, networking, and business solutions**  
at your fingertips.

**Download now to enjoy seamless interaction!**

**JOIN US**

# MEMBERSHIP

OPEN

# BBE

**BLACK BUSINESS**  
E N T E R P R I S E S



**BBE Membership is OPEN—Join the Movement!**

Black entrepreneurship has never been about ease—it has always been about courage. Long before access to capital, storefronts, or fair markets was guaranteed, Black business owners built anyway. That same resilience lives in you. If you're just starting, finding your footing, or looking for a community that understands the journey, there's space for you here—come build with us.

**This is your moment!**

JOIN US



# GRANTS APPLICATION

*The grant opportunities below are here for a reason - to be used. They're for practice.*

Apply often. Apply boldly, and keep showing up even when the “no’s” stack up before the yes. Entrepreneurship is a wild journey full of trials, pivots and patience. Tenacity is what carries you through—not fear, not procrastination.

Every application builds skill, clarity, and momentum. Commit to applying for **at least one grant each month**. Keep trying. Keep refining. Keep believing. Your persistence is part of the process—and eventually, it pays off.

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## HERSUITE SPOT®

### **HerRise MicroGrant – FREE to Apply!**

The HerRise Micro-Grant provides financial assistance, with the help of our corporate sponsors and donors, to women of color creating innovative solutions that impact their community and who are often unable to secure funding for their small businesses.

**Deadline: Evergreen**

[APPLY HERE](#)

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## Q.EDC

### **Building a better Queens, for generations!**

Queens is home to 2.3 million people – nearly all of whom have been touched by our work in some way. We've helped thousands of entrepreneurs start businesses that employ thousands more, promoted events and attractions that have driven tens of millions of visitors, and supported organizations that make our neighborhoods the envy of the world.

**Evergreen**

[APPLY HERE](#)

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## **The Minnesota Trade Office (MTO)!**

The Minnesota Trade Office (MTO), an office within the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, is soliciting applications for funding for eligible Minnesota-based small businesses to participate in export development activities that will assist the company to begin exporting or increase their exports from Minnesota.

**Deadline: June 30th, 2026.**

[APPLY HERE](#)

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## **EDA Business Development Fund – FREE to Apply!**

The Cook County/Grand Marais Joint Economic Development Authority (EDA) is now accepting applications for the Business Development Fund Grant Program for the 2026 calendar year. This reimbursement-based grant program provides up to \$25,000 to support local small businesses and entrepreneurs, encourage public-private investment, and strengthen Cook County's overall economy.

**Deadline: Evergreen**

[APPLY HERE](#)

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## Freed Fellowship Grant



### Apply Today For a \$2,500 Small Business Grant!

Plus get feedback on your business and two months of free mentorship in our vibrant online community for entrepreneurs and business owners.

**Deadline: Evergreen**

[APPLY HERE](#)

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**terra** Foundation for American Art

### Expanding Narratives of American Art!

Terra Foundation for American Art fosters intercultural dialogues and encourages transformative practices through grants and collection loans to cultural institutions worldwide.

**Deadline: March 6th, 2026**

[APPLY HERE](#)

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## Power Forward Small Business Grant!

The Power Forward Small Business Grant program aims to create a lasting impact through the economic empowerment of Black-owned small businesses across New England. Through a combined commitment of \$1 million, Vistaprint and the Boston Celtics Shamrock Foundation are teaming up with the NAACP to award transformative grants of \$25,000 on a rolling basis. Through this initiative, grant recipients will have opportunities to be featured on national co-branded platforms, along with receiving marketing and design resources customized to their specific needs to help their business grow and thrive.

**Deadline: Evergreen**

**APPLY HERE**



## Wish Local Empowerment Program

We recognize that as a large e-commerce company we have the responsibility to help uplift others. Black-owned small businesses have long faced hardship due to systemic racism. But small businesses like yours are integral to the makeup of America. So we are dedicating a \$2M dollar fund to give roughly 4,000 Wish Local small business partners financial support. The selected recipients will receive amounts between \$500 - \$2000. This program will only be open to Black-owned stores, to help promote equality and diversity in American business.

**Deadline: Evergreen**

**APPLY HERE**

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## **MN Promise Act – FREE to Apply**

Round 2 of the MN PROMISE Act Grant for  
Minneapolis and Saint Paul are open now.

Click below to start your application.

**Deadline: Evergreen**

**APPLY HERE**

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Robert is the founder and owner of **Watson Express Security**, a Minnesota-based security services company established in 2019. With a master's degree and a strong background in security operations, workforce development, and community-centered safety, Robert brings both expertise and purpose to the work he does.

Under his leadership, **Watson Express Security** has been fully licensed and bonded for over six years, providing dependable unarmed security services, training, and safety solutions for businesses and organizations across the state. His commitment to professionalism, accountability, and well-trained personnel reflects a client-first approach and a deep respect for community safety.

Learn more about Watson Security and Connect below!

**LET'S CONNECT**

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# Upcoming EVENTS

**MISSION**  
*over* **MOTION** **LIVE STREAMING**

**Building Businesses With Intention and Clarity**

Mission Over Motion is a leadership conversation for Black business owners, professionals, and decision-makers navigating pressure, noise, and constant demand to “move” without clarity.

**MONDAY 2/16**  
Open House 12pm  
Program Starts 1:00pm  
BBE Headquarters

**SPECIAL GUEST**  
*Bianca Dawkins*

**PRESENTED BY:**  
**BBE**  
BLACK BUSINESS  
ENTERPRISES

**MINNESOTA LIBERTARIAN PARTY**

**LIVE STREAMING**

## *Leading With Purpose in Uncertain Times*

 February 12th. 2026.

Mission Over Motion is an intentional business and leadership conversation designed for Black business owners, professionals, and students navigating pressure, uncertainty, and constant demands to move without clarity. This gathering creates space to slow down, reflect, and reconnect with purpose—centering leadership that is grounded, aligned, and sustainable. This event combines conversation, connection, and community-building, with opportunities to engage meaningfully rather than rush through another program.

RSVP

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## Join Us for an Elegant Masked Mixer Event




An intimate evening  
of connection and  
fundraising

→ February 27, 2026  
7 PM

### **Masked Fund-raiser Mixer!**

 February 27th. 2026.

 7:00 PM

Join us for an inspiring evening of celebration, generosity, and purpose at this mixer and silent auction in support of Women Empowered MN! Step into an evening of mystery, elegance, and meaningful impact at the Women Empowered MN Mixer.

[Join Here](#)

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**UPDATE ON BBE SPACE!**



# THE LUXE AT HARMON BY BBE

Venue Booking Fees Starting January

Dear BBE Member, We'd like to inform you that starting January, all event space bookings will include: **\$100** non-refundable cleaning fee and a **\$30/hr** staff fee for event support. Thank you for being a valued member of the BBE community!

**\$100** Cleaning Fee

**\$30/hr** Staff Fee



**BBE  
MEMBERS  
ONLY**

Do you need a perfect venue for your next event?

From birthdays to weddings, corporate functions, dinner, gala, conference, seminar, talk show, music concerts, and more — our stunning BBE space is here for YOU!

Booking available Monday – Friday for **FREE** (Members should reach out about weekend events)

Exclusive for BBE Members Only

For enquiries: [designs@blackbusinessenterprises.org](mailto:designs@blackbusinessenterprises.org)

Secure your date today — space fills up fast!

**BOOK HERE**

# About Us

LEARN MORE

## OUR CORE VALUES

1. Lead with Love
2. Show up!
3. Invest in Yourself
4. Give Back
5. **JEDI** is Everything

**J**USTICE  
**E**QUITY  
**D**IVERSITY  
**I**NCLUSION

We are excited to bring you the latest news and updates from our organization. As a collective of Black-owned businesses, we continue to strive towards empowering ourselves and our communities through economic growth and development.

We are seeking individuals who share our core values and are committed to upholding them.

[CLICK TO ALL THINGS BBE](#)



## 1-1 MEETING WITH NANCY

**Duration:** 30 minutes  
**Platform:** Web conferencing details provided upon confirmation.

### **Discussion Points:**

Let's explore how we can elevate your business to new heights. Together, we'll refine your strategy, enhance your business plan, and turn your vision into reality. Ready to take the next step?

[BOOK A CALL](#)

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# *Support*

## **BLACK BUSINESS ENTERPRISES**

We welcome you to stand with us in our mission. By backing Black-owned businesses, you're not just fostering economic growth within our community, but also advancing equality and social justice.

Your contributions play a pivotal role in empowering us to sustain our goal of nurturing a flourishing community of Black-owned enterprises. We're confident that through your kindness, we can forge a brighter tomorrow for both ourselves and future generations.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation for your ongoing support and generosity. Together, we have the power to enact meaningful change.

[DONATE](#)

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# *Services*

## **WHAT WE HAVE TO OFFER?**



## VENUE

Rent our space for events, birthday parties, graduations, dinners, workshops, small weddings, and more!

[BOOK NOW](#)



## VIRTUAL OFFICE

Don't want your home address to be public to the world? Get a Virtual office with us.

[GET YOUR ADDRESS](#)

## GROUPS

168 Facebook group communities with a total of 3.6 million users to connect with.

[JOIN A CHAPTER](#)





## PROGRAMS

Credit Workshops, Marketing,  
Business Development, and more.

[FIND A CLASS](#)

# Impact

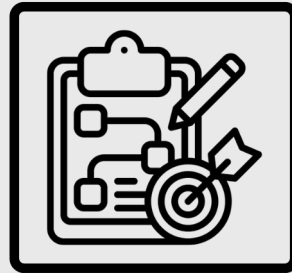
WHAT WE DO



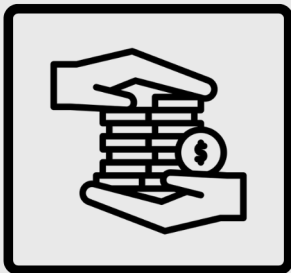
Over 100 New Businesses  
Opened



Over 200 New  
Websites



Over 100 Business  
Plans



Over 80 Businesses  
Funded by Partner Banks



Over 150 Logos Created and  
Branding



Over 5000 Posts Created for  
Members

# PODCAST

We feature local business owners that need spotlight.

Watch our educational podcast where we discuss homeownership, credit, law, business, accounting, and more. **40k to 80k viewers weekly.**

[WATCH](#)



Black Business Enterprises  
Podcast:Credit in the Arts

41 weeks ago · 78.9K views

You and 161 others



# EVENTS

Join us at our monthly events to learn, connect with potential customers, expand your professional network and get to know your supportive business family.

[EVENTS](#)

# MEMBERSHIP

Not a member yet?

Join our growing community of  
Entrepreneurs!

We all need a YOU

Let us help you with your business!

[LEARN MORE](#)





## CREDIT

We give our members an opportunity to learn how to improve their credit and how to legally dispute incorrect items on their report, pay off debts, and improve their financial lives.

[LEARN MORE](#)

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## Hello BBE Members,

We are in the process of updating our records and kindly request all members to complete the information update by filling out the following form.

[UPDATE INFORMATION FORM](#)



### BLACK BUSINESS ENTERPRISES

Black Business Enterprises Fund (BBE) is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization based in Minneapolis, M.N.

**EVENTS | MEMBERSHIP | SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES  
| AFFILIATE PARTNERS | JOB POSTINGS | DONATE**

1128 Harmon PI Minneapolis, MN 55403 suite #200

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