

JOIN THE FASTER WV PROGRAM TODAY!



FREE WORKSHOPS

To learn about target sector opportunities



ENTREPRENEURSHIP TRAINING

in basic business and sector specific skills



BUSINESS COACHING

From professional partners



ACCESS TO CAPITAL

through revolving loan program



Advantage Valley is a regional nonprofit organization promoting the growth and development of West Virginia's Charleston – Huntington Metro region. The FASTER (Fostering Advantages for Startups & Entrepreneurial Resurgence) WV initiative intends to expand the regional resources available for small businesses and strengthen entrepreneurs' skills and knowledge. Funding for FASTER WV is provided by the:

Appalachian Regional Commission

Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation

The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation

PO Box 1925 | Charleston, WV 25327

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advantagevalley.com   



INSIGHTS YOU WANT. INFORMATION YOU NEED. ENTREPRENEUR BUSINESS BASICS.

A program to help start new businesses, and grow existing businesses, in Boone, Cabell, Clay, Kanawha, Lincoln, Putnam, and Wayne counties.

GETTING STARTED

Our business coaches will guide you. Our classes will help you build the foundation you need. When you're ready, our loan fund will help you build your business.

MEET AND WORK WITH BUSINESS COACH

- > Contact Jules Bills at Unlimited Future, Inc. (304) 697-3007 or jules@unlimitedfuture.org (for Cabell and Wayne Counties)
- > Contact Terrell Ellis at Advantage Valley at (304) 352-1165 or via email at terrell@advantagevalley.com (for Putnam, Lincoln, Kanawha, Boone and Clay Counties)



TAKE ONLINE BUSINESS ENTREPRENEURSHIP CLASSES

- > Unlimited Future, Inc. PLANNING FOR PROFIT 8 week online ZOOM class (for Cabell and Wayne Counties)
- > BridgeValley Community & Technical College Kauffman FastTrac® START-UP BASICS 8 week online ZOOM class (for Putnam, Lincoln, Kanawha, Boone and Clay Counties)



WORK WITH BUSINESS COACH TO APPLY FOR CAPITAL

- > Upon completion of Kauffman FastTrac® or Planning for Profit classes, a business coach will assist the participant applying for a FASTER WV loan.
- > Only businesses within the targeted sectors are eligible for a FASTER WV loan.
- > For other business sectors, the business coach will assist with securing financing from other lending sources.



TARGETED SECTORS



River & Outdoor Recreation/Lodging

Any business that serves participants in the outdoor recreation industry or provides support to businesses that serve this sector.



Dependent Care Services

Child care, Senior Care, Canine Care



Food & Beverage Production

The food and beverages industry includes all companies involved in processing raw food materials, packaging, and distributing them. This includes fresh, prepared foods as well as packaged foods, and alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages meant for human consumption.



Construction Trades

Trades (as carpentry, bricklaying, plumbing etc.) that are essential to and chiefly practiced in connection with building construction.



Healthcare

Providers of diagnostic, preventive, remedial, and therapeutic services such as doctors, nurses, hospitals and other private, public, and voluntary organizations. It also includes medical equipment and pharmaceutical manufacturers and health insurance firms.



Small Manufacturing

The making of goods or wares by machinery with sales under \$1 million

PARTNERS



BridgeValley Community and Technical College provides workforce development, entrepreneurial, and educational services to thousands of students and trainees in the region, including through its Entrepreneurship Certificate of Science program. Dedicated staff will be recruiting FASTER WV entrepreneurial participants.

- Contact Stephanie Fizer at (304) 205-6612 or via email at Stephanie.Fizer@bridgevalley.edu



Unlimited Futures, Inc. is a micro-enterprise development center and business incubator supporting people with the tools and resources to start a business and generate jobs in their community. Unlimited Future will provide Business-Start Up Courses and Business Coaching for FASTER WV participants, available in-person or live over ZOOM.US Web conferencing.

- Contact Jules Bills at (304) 697-3007 or via email at jules@unlimitedfuture.org



The West Virginia Small Business Development Center assists entrepreneurs and small business owners at every stage of the business life cycle by providing technical assistance to help clients clarify goals, develop skills, and acquire resources to operate a successful enterprise. A dedicated FASTER WV Business Coach will provide tools and support to new and growing businesses.



The Wyoming County Economic Development Authority will provide loans to qualified start-up and existing small businesses through a capital lending and impact investment fund for the Advantage Valley region. Loan availability only to FASTER WV participants completing entrepreneurial classes and referred by a FASTER WV business coach.

** Sectors identified in Advantage Valley Analysis of Best Market Opportunities for Business Development, June 2018*