

FREE SELF-EMPLOYMENT Classes for People with Disabilities, Families and Community Agencies

NEXT CLASS STARTING April 6, 2021



Do you know a person with a disability who has a hobby, an idea for a possible business or who needs more support for an existing business? If so, our **FREE ONLINE ZOOM Business Classes** can help the person to learn all about self-employment and available resources to build their business idea and their financial future!

These are unprecedented times due to COVID-19 but there are opportunities for people with disabilities to safely pursue employment by owning their own business! Entrepreneurship is the choice to do things that have *real meaning* for the person to sell a product or a service they really love to make a living. Here's what Michael Coyne, owner of "Red, White and Brew Café" in North Smithfield, RI says:

WHY CHOOSE SELF-EMPLOYMENT?

1. I love being my own "BOSS", meeting new people and spending my time working on something I really enjoy every day!
2. I decide my own flexible work schedule and hours.
3. The Classes helped me to learn skills for problem solving, creativity, communication, and self-advocacy. I met other great people with disabilities who also own their own businesses. And I received a mini-grant to buy some equipment I needed for my business!
4. I have a personal support network and my Business Team who help me with my business.
5. I am no longer "volunteering" my time at a job, but instead I have MY OWN business making money and I have increased my income!



The RI Developmental Disabilities Council, in partnership with CWE and others developed a **FREE Business Development Series** of 8 Classes, now ONLINE through ZOOM Meetings. The first Class starts **Tuesday, April 6, 2021 from 1:00 pm-2:30 pm** and others scheduled every week or two.

The Classes provide practical business advice, information on resources (*including mini-grants to buy equipment, supplies or other support for your business*) and ongoing individualized support to participants, families and staff through experienced Business Advisors. Business experts know how to develop good business plans, marketing ideas and set goals the person can achieve in the industry he/she launches.

The Series includes the following Classes: 1. Is Entrepreneurship (Self-Employment) Right for You? 2. Steps to Start a Small Business, 3. Identifying Your Target Market, 4. Developing an Effective "Elevator Speech" about Your Service/Product(s), 5. How to Write a Good Business Plan, 6. Finances, Bookkeeping, and Community Resources, 7. Marketing Your Business Idea, and 8. Using Social Media to Promote your Business.

To Register for this Class or For More Information Call Claudia Lowe at 738-3960 or Sue Babin at 523-2300. (Participation Is Limited!)



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