

FREE
REGISTRATION!



Equitable Entrepreneurial Ecosystems in Rural Communities Workshop

SEPTEMBER 7, 2023 in JEFFERSON CITY, MO

The Equitable Entrepreneurial Ecosystem workshop is a free educational opportunity for any rural community in Missouri. This one-day workshop will focus on Entrepreneurial Mindset, Equitable Ecosystems, Ecosystem Building Blocks and Support, and Preparing for the Ecosystem Building process. Our speakers will cover several tools and templates for you to better assess your community's entrepreneurial ecosystem, its assets and gaps, the role that your Main Street and partner organizations play, along with targeted next steps to map out and utilize your Ecosystem. Participants will leave with the tools and understanding of how to put the pieces of their ecosystem together equitably and with entrepreneurs in mind.

The workshop will center around Main Street America's critical factors of ecosystem development. We encourage you to make the most of this free workshop by bringing a 'squad.' A community squad is a group representing as many factors as possible, ideally with a representative from each block, from the following categories: Place, Human Capital, Social Capital, Financial Capital, Education and Training, Culture, Government/ Regulation.

DATE & TIME:

Thursday, September 7, 2023
10:00 am - 5:00 pm

LOCATION:

Governor's Office Building
200 Madison Street, Suite 450
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Any Missouri Main Street Accredited, Associate, and Affiliate tier (including CEG) community wanting to apply for the Equitable Entrepreneurial Ecosystem in Rural communities grant must attend this workshop. Only communities in MMSC's tiers under 50,000 population are eligible to apply.

Three communities will be selected to receive an Equitable Entrepreneurial Ecosystems in Rural Communities grant for technical services from Main Street America.



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ABOUT OUR PARTNERS



Main Street America has been helping revitalize older and historic commercial districts for more than 40 years. Today it is a network of more than 1,600 neighborhoods and communities, rural and urban, who share both a commitment to place and to building stronger communities through preservation-based economic development. Main Street America is a subsidiary of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. For more information, visit the Main Street America website.



Forward Cities is a national nonprofit with a mission to transform the way communities see, support, and sustain entrepreneurs – through racial equity lens. The organization leverages thought leadership, custom solutions, and learning networks to grow the capacity of local leaders to build more equitable entrepreneurial ecosystems. For more information, visit the Forward Cities website.

ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS



Joi Cuartero Austin

Joi provides comprehensive revitalization technical services related to Economic Vitality as Senior Program Officer for Economic Vitality. Her pedigree includes being a certified economic development practitioner (CEcD) and board member with the International Economic Development Council; Board Member for IL Route 66 Byways; Board Member for Quincy Area Convention & Visitors Bureau as well as sitting on their D&I committee; co-founder of 100 Women Who Care Adams County chapter; and collaborator for TEDx Quincy.



Fay Horwitt

Fay serves as the President & CEO of Forward Cities, where she oversees organizational strategy and serves as the executive lead of the ESHIP Communities initiative. In addition, Fay is a dedicated advocate for the emerging profession of ecosystem building, and a founding member of Ecosystems Unite. Beyond her formal roles, she is a sought after presenter, trainer, and thought leader on the topic of equitable entrepreneurial ecosystem building.



Tasha Sams

Tasha leads MSA's rural equitable entrepreneurial ecosystem building efforts. Over and beyond Tasha's current role, Tasha has been an ambassador to rising entrepreneurial talent among diverse populations and has cultivated accessible networks of quality and inclusion to lead next-level innovation by the promising upcoming workforce. Recognizing the inextricable link between diversity and economic development, Tasha is an accomplished and respected leader in the national field of inclusive innovation.



Missouri Main Street Connection is a grantee of the Equitable Ecosystems in Rural Main Streets Program, led by Main Street America, in partnership with Forward Cities and supported by the Kauffman Foundation.



Questions? Email to Kathy@MoMainStreet.org