



**OFFICE OF THE PLANNING BOARD & SELECTMEN**  
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**Memorandum for Record**

To: Local and potential businesses  
From: Economic Development Task Force  
Cc: Rindge Chamber of Commerce  
Date: August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012

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Starting a business can be both challenging and exciting! The Town of Rindge welcomes new businesses looking to start up as well as existing businesses hoping to expand. Challenges involved in starting a business include obtaining real estate, state/federal/local permitting, marketing, financing/loan options, and market research.

The following is a list of resources available to you that may assist you in your desire to start or expand a business here in Rindge.

**1. Monadnock Economic Development Corporation:**

Monadnock Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) has a unique and successful history of incorporation in Southwestern New Hampshire. In 1985, a need was identified to "centralize in one organization the leadership and coordination of efforts to improve and revitalize...the health, vitality, and environment of the industrial base of the Keene region..." Hence, the private, not-for-profit Keene Industrial Development Corporation (KIDC) was founded. KIDC initially derived its funding from the City of Keene, the Keene Chamber of Commerce, and the Keene Downtown Housing Corporation. The objectives of the organization included:

- Serving as a liaison between private and public bodies in coordinating and negotiating development activity
- Assuming a positive role in seeking out and discussing with present and potential property owners, developers, and tenants those opportunities and plans for bringing together available programs, investment opportunities, financial assistance programs, and necessary government cooperation with the objective of fostering a strong industrial base
- Assisting the City Council and Select Boards throughout the region in meeting their responsibilities for maintaining a strong industrial base

- Maintaining a cooperative working relationship with Planning Departments, Planning Boards, and other community organizations in development planning roles.

Recognizing that Keene is at the economic center of the Monadnock Region and that a vital downtown would be critical to its prosperity, KIDC merged with Keene Downtown Revitalization Corporation in 1995 to form the Keene Economic Development and Revitalization Corporation.

Address: 51 Railroad St. Suite 101, Keene, NH 03431

Phone: 603-352-4939

website: [www.monadnock-development.org](http://www.monadnock-development.org)

## **2. NH Small Business Development Center:**

Offers one-on-one business management advice and educational programs, at no cost, to new and existing businesses. Small businesses are vital to our state's economic vitality; their goal is to help your business succeed.

Address: Keene Regional Office: Keene State College, Blake House, Keene, NH 03453

Phone: 603-358-2602

website: [www.nhsbdc.org/contact](http://www.nhsbdc.org/contact)

email: [cflanaga@keene.edu](mailto:cflanaga@keene.edu)

## **3. Monadnock SCORE:**

With over 20 members, Monadnock SCORE is committed to provide quality business counseling, without charge, to residents and businesses in the area. Our counselors are volunteers dedicated to giving back to the community in which they live.

SCORE counsels up to 200 clients per year. Our members enjoy the challenge of solving business problems and providing expertise and experience to help entrepreneurs and people new to business. Our staff is knowledgeable about current business practices and changing technologies.

Monadnock SCORE also sponsors seminars covering a variety of topics from *Starting a Business* to *Internet Marketing Techniques*.

Address: 34 Mechanic Street, Keene, NH 03431

Phone: 603-352-4939

website: [www.monadnock-score.org](http://www.monadnock-score.org)

## **4. Southwest Regional Planning Commission:**

Dialogue is established between the Planning Commission and municipalities concerned about their community's economic development. With input from the citizens and community organizations, the Planning Commission and municipality develop an Economic Development Plan complete with analyses and an economic database. The

process takes approximately one year and the final Plan will contain short- and long-term goals with recommendations for achieving them. Financial support is provided to assist municipalities with funding the Economic Development Plan.

Address: 20 Central Square, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Keene, NH 03431

Phone: 603-357-0557

website: [www.swrpc.org](http://www.swrpc.org)

## **5. Small Business Administration/VA:**

The Small Business Administration and VA offer various loan programs to assist businesses with initial startup costs:

- *7(a) Loan Program* includes financial help for businesses with special requirements. For example, funds are available for loans to businesses that handle exports to foreign countries and businesses that operate in rural areas.
- *Microloan Program* provides small, short-term loans to small business concerns and certain types of not-for-profit childcare centers.
- *CDC/504 Loan Program* is a powerful economic development loan program that offers small businesses another avenue for business financing while promoting business growth and job creation.
- *Center for Veterans Enterprise (CVE)* offers a variety of loan options for eligible veterans. There are additional opportunities for veterans who have been disabled due to combat-related injury.

Address: JC Cleveland Federal Building, 53 Pleasant Street, Suite 3101, Concord, NH 03301

Phone: 603-225-1400

Website: [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov)

## **6. New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development – Business Resource Center:**

The New Hampshire Business Resource Center (BRC) provides a broad range of business assistance programs including:

- Business and technical assistance for manufacturers
- Grant assistance in recruiting and training new employees and incumbent workers
- Subsidized technical assistance from the University of New Hampshire and Dartmouth College
- Technical assistance to New Hampshire companies interested in procuring federal and state contracts
- Permit assistance
- Customized reports and personal tours on available industrial and office real estate

- Prompt and professional follow-through on any question related to state government
- Site selection
- Employee retention/layoff aversion.

Address: 172 Pembroke Road, Concord, NH 03302-18567

Phone: 603-271-2411

E-mail: <http://www.dred.state.nh.us/>

#### **7. EPA Brownfields Grants:**

The New Hampshire Brownfields Program encourages the redevelopment of contaminated properties through a variety of approaches that address the uncertainty and liability concerns associated with brownfields sites.

Address: 29 Hazen Dr., Concord, NH 03302-0095

Phone: 603-271-3503

E-mail: <http://des.nh.gov>

#### **8. Community Development Finance Authority:**

The Community Development Finance Authority is here to help municipalities, businesses, and non-profits obtain the resources needed to create thriving, vibrant communities. Created in 1983, we support affordable housing and economic development activities that benefit low- and moderate-income citizens in New Hampshire.

CDFA administers nearly \$57 million in funding resources, which includes a combination of state tax credits and federal Community Development Block Grant, Neighborhood Stabilization, and Energy Reduction funds.

Address: 14 Dixon Ave., Suite 102, Concord, NH 03301

Phone: 603-226-2170

E-mail: [www.nhcdfa.org](http://www.nhcdfa.org)