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*Small Business is Good Business*



Advocating, Informing and Promoting Small & Minority Owned Businesses

OhioFBE is on page 11

“Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere”



Ohio Department of Transportation Civil Rights Symposium



Martin Luther King III (2nd from left) was the Keynote Speaker at the first Ohio Department of Transportation Civil Rights Symposium held in early April. He is pictured with State Rep. Alicia Reece (immediate past Ohio Legislative Black Caucus president - left), Rep. Stephanie Howse (current OLBC President) and Columbus NAACP 2nd Vice President Joel L. King. The luncheon was attended by over 400 guests including Congresswoman Joyce Beatty and Lt. Governor Mary Taylor. Many ODOT officials from across the country also attended. You can view the event online at <http://bit.ly/2oj6w5W>. A recap is also available on YouTube at <http://bit.ly/2nXzbBp>

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**#ohiombe**

**Support Black Businesses**

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OhioMBE welcomes letters to the editor from readers. Typed letters of 200 words or less are preferred; all might be edited. Each letter must include name, home address and daytime phone number. Some letter may appear on our website.

The 912 Group is an Ohio certified Minority Owned and EDGE business. The 912 Group is a certified FBE with the City of Columbus.

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Hashtag: [#ohiombe](https://twitter.com/ohiombe)

## Ohio Receives National Award for Exporting

The Ohio Development Services Agency's International Marketing Access Grant for Exporters (IMAGE) program was recently honored with the 2017 Advancing International Trade State Award by the National Association of Small Business International Trade Educators (NASBITE) at its annual conference in Spokane, Washington.

In 2016, Ohio exported nearly \$50 billion worth of goods and services worldwide. The IMAGE program, a state and federal grant, helps marketing internationally more affordable to Ohio small businesses.

"Ohio consistently ranks as one of the top ten exporting states in the U.S.," said David Goodman, director of the Ohio Development Services Agency. "By helping small businesses market internationally, Ohio remains competitive in a global marketplace."

For the last four years of the program, IMAGE has provided a total of 441 grants to Ohio small businesses to assist with international marketing activities. Participating companies reported a total of \$188.4 million in expected global sales generated from the activities supported by the IMAGE program.

Also, to increase the rate of success for Ohio small businesses in the global economy, the State of Ohio also offers programs to help small businesses hire an export intern, conduct market research and improve export processes. For more information, visit: [www.exportassistance.development.ohio.gov](http://www.exportassistance.development.ohio.gov)

The IMAGE program supported by the Ohio Development Services Agency (DSA) and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) through the State Trade Expansion Program (STEP) offers financial assistance to small businesses to promote their products and services into international markets.

For information about the IMAGE program, visit: [www.image.development.ohio.gov](http://www.image.development.ohio.gov)

## Ohio Business and Career Expo targets minorities, women and disadvantaged business owners, job seekers

Job seekers and business owners are invited to attend the Ohio Business and Career Expo being held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 17 at the Ohio Expo Center's Cardinal Hall, 717 E. 17<sup>th</sup> Ave., Columbus. Several hundred attendees are expected.

This free networking and learning opportunity is geared toward job seekers and business owners who are minorities, women, or otherwise socially and economically disadvantaged.

Attendees will have the opportunity to connect with employers and procurement officials from the Ohio Department of Administrative Services, Ohio Department of Transportation and other state agencies as well as the Columbus Regional Airport Authority and more. In addition to one-on-one networking opportunities, the event also will include many workshops.

The purpose of the expo is to support the efforts of the State of Ohio and its partners to sup-

*See Expo on page 4*

# guest columns

## Why Black Business Should Vote For Me

My name is Will Petrik, and I'm running for Columbus City Council. I believe that small business owners are the backbone of a strong economy. The City of Columbus must continue to grow its economy with a strong emphasis on inclusion of our minority businesses. It is important that all communities and individuals have access and opportunity to resources to help their business be successful. I also believe that minority businesses should be able to compete on a fair and equitable playing field.

As a city council person, I will fight to:

- Ensure that the percentage of funding made available to minority businesses for city contracts and set asides is met and a plan to increase that percentage of the city budget
- Increase access to capital and education critical to minority business growth
- Increase micro lending for minority businesses
- Provide more technical training and resources to strengthen minority small businesses and start-ups
- Give the minority business community a stronger voice at City Hall. City Hall needs to understand the unique needs of minority entrepreneurs and provide support, so more minority businesses can be successful.
- Reduce barriers for minority business loans
- Expand Credit Unions to develop and promote loans to minority businesses and expand business development education
- Pass legislation that better positions minority businesses to compete locally, regionally and beyond
- Reduce discrepancies in interest rates for minority businesses
- Change statewide economic policies that limit the inclusion of minority business owners in contract bidding and

*See Petrik on page 8*

Letters to the editor are welcome and will be considered for publication or posting online. The preferred method is to text within an email. Please include contact information including letter writer's city and state. The letter must be fewer than 300 words. No more than four signatures per letter. We edit and/or trim letters as little as possible, but we reserve the right to do so as necessary. Send to [news@ohiombe.com](mailto:news@ohiombe.com)

[www.ohiombe.com](http://www.ohiombe.com)

## Why I am running for Columbus City Council

By Jasmine Ayres

Columbus has the opportunity to lead the nation as a progressive, diverse, safe, technology-friendly city. I am committed to the pursuit of real and meaningful change to improve the lives of our youth and families, and create a strong economic base for our minority communities. I am currently working for a black owned business, have been doing community organizing work with the People's Justice Project and have been coaching football for the past two years at my alma matter, Northland High School. In 2015, I earned a Master's of Public Affairs from the University of Texas with a focus on education policy and local government. In combining my direct experience growing and working in our communities, along with my policy background, I am confident I have the knowledge experience, and values to help move Columbus in a more equitable direction.



I have deep love for Columbus. Our schools, churches, recreation centers and incredible citizens have shaped me into the person I am today. The people of Columbus are diverse, resilient, caring, and genuine. As the economic engine of the state, Columbus provides good opportunities to many of its citizens. Unfortunately, many working-class households and neighborhoods of color are not benefiting from the recent growth.

### I will fight for safer communities:

- Using proven community-centric policing models that provide the best training for officers working in diverse urban environments.
- Ensuring access to treatment and trauma recovery programs for victims of violent crime. Special attention will be given to our youth in Columbus City Schools that have witnessed the deaths of their fellow students.
- Ensuring all housing is up to code and without lead paint

### I will advocate for equitable economic development by:

- Encouraging economic growth while protecting public housing, small and minority owned businesses and encouraging new housing developments to be mixed income.

*See Guest on page 8*

Real Jobs.  
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Waste Management is Now Hiring!  
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#### Technicians:

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- 1+ year experience w/ heavy equipment

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[wmcareers.com](http://wmcareers.com)

EOE M/F/D/V

port equal employment opportunities and efforts to expand access to state contracts for small, minority- and women-owned businesses.

For job seekers, the expo provides the chance to explore career opportunities with government agencies and construction trades. In addition, participants will include contractors who work on state and state-assisted construction projects and are interested in further diversifying their workforces. Representatives from construction apprenticeship programs also will be available to discuss opportunities in their fields. In addition, a computer lab will be available for job seekers to start creating a profile on the State of Ohio job posting site, [careers.ohio.gov](http://careers.ohio.gov). Workshops will be offered on resume writing, interviewing techniques and application processes.

For business owners, the expo provides networking opportunities for businesses certified through the Minority Business Enterprise (MBE), EDGE (Encouraging Diversity, Growth and Equity) or Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) programs as well as those interested in learning more about becoming certified. MBE and EDGE are administered by the Ohio Department of Administrative Services. DBE is administered by the Ohio Department of Transportation.

In addition to networking opportunities and scheduled "matchmaking" appointments with purchasing officials, workshop topics will include financing programs, registering to do business with the state and responding to a state bid request. A computer lab will be available to help business owners begin the application process for MBE and/or EDGE certification, recertification or cross certification. Participants also will be able to begin the forms to do business with the state and to receive bid notifications. Help also will be available to navigate the state procurement website, [procure.ohio.gov](http://procure.ohio.gov).

Admission is free. Parking is \$5.

## Ohio Certification Center

The Ohio Certification Center is here to help you get your business certified as a:

### Minority Business Enterprise (MBE)

State of Ohio  
City of Columbus

### Female Business Enterprise (FBE)

City of Columbus

### Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)

Columbus City Schools (LEDE)  
Ohio Department of Transportation

### EDGE (Encouraging Diversity Equity and Growth)

[www.OhioCertificationCenter.com](http://www.OhioCertificationCenter.com)

Visit [OhioMBE.eventbee.com](http://OhioMBE.eventbee.com) for upcoming class dates.



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# bid opportunities

To post a bid notice, call 614-522-9122 or email [news@ohiombe.com](mailto:news@ohiombe.com)



Columbus City Schools issues solicitations on a regular basis for goods & services related to food, construction, technology, curriculum, & transportation. Interested vendors should periodically check our website at <http://www.columbus.k12.oh.us/rfp>



Request For Proposal Columbus Urban League Huntington Empowerment Center 780 Mount Vernon Ave Columbus, OH 43203

## A. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Daimler Group, Inc. is the Developer/GC and we are seeking subcontractor bids for the construction of a new 7,300 SF 2 story mixed use office building located on a previously developed urban infill site. The building will consist of a wood structural frame, salvage and restoration of portions of the existing building façade, mass and selective demolition, brick veneer and brick tuck pointing and restoration, aluminum storefront/curtain wall/entrances, membrane roofing. The site is currently occupied by two existing buildings which will require demolition and shoring / maintenance of an existing building façade to be reused and incorporated into the completed project. Note: Due to diverse funding sources, portions of this project will require payment of prevailing wage rates. See subcontractor scopes of work in Bid Form to determine prevailing wage rate requirements.

## B. BID INSTRUCTIONS

1. BID DUE DATE- Bids are due no later than 10:00 am (Eastern Standard Time) on Wednesday, April 26, 2016 and must be submitted electronically via email to the following: The Daimler Group, Inc. Attention: Chad Blind, Estimating Manager Email: [chadb@daimlergroup.com](mailto:chadb@daimlergroup.com)

See full bid notice at [www.OhioMBE.com/bid-opportunities](http://www.OhioMBE.com/bid-opportunities)

## DANIS

New Water Treatment Center for Southwest Licking Community Water & Sewer District:

"Danis Industrial Construction Company, an Equal Opportunity Employer, is soliciting bids from certified DBE, MBE, WBE and SBRA subcontractors and suppliers for the New Water Treatment Center for Southwest Licking Community Water & Sewer District. **Fax bids to 937-228-7443 or email to [estimating.dbcc@danis.com](mailto:estimating.dbcc@danis.com) by no later than 10:00 A.M. 4/19/2017.** Subcontracting opportunities include, but are not limited to the following: trucking, excavation, site work, fencing, paving, demolition, reinforcing steel supply/erection, flat-work, masonry, roofing, caulking, drywall, interior finishes, doors, windows, painting, plumbing, HVAC, instrumentation, and building material supply. Bid documents are available at our on-line plan room at <https://secure.smartbidnet.com/External/PublicPlanRoom.aspx?Id=293535&e=1>. Please contact Jay Willen at 937-228-1225, with any questions regarding the project."



MORPC is seeking a quote on a media campaign to help increase awareness of MORPC's Air Quality Alert service, increase subscribers to email notifier database for Air Quality Alerts, and educate

the public about what to do when an alert has been forecasted and what sensitive groups (people with respiratory illnesses, seniors and children) should do to protect their health, and reduce individual contributions to air pollution. The media campaign should run from May 20 – August 31, 2017.

To be considered submit an itemized quote no later than April 19, 2017.

### SUBMIT QUOTES TO:

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission  
Attn: Evelyn Ebert, Air Quality Program Supervisor  
111 Liberty St. Suite 100  
Columbus, OH 43215  
[eebert@morpc.org](mailto:eebert@morpc.org)



"Attention City of Columbus Certified MBE/WBE Companies"

Kokosing Industrial, Inc. is preparing bids for the Southerly Wastewater Treatment Plant Chemically Enhanced Primary Treatment: Preliminary Treatment project in Columbus, Ohio which bids May 3, 2017. We are seeking quotes for any portion of the project listed that you are qualified to perform or provide supplies for which includes the following: Trucking, Paving, Seeding, Reinforcing Steel, Caulking, Masonry, Roofing, Painting, PHVAC, Electrical, I&C. Bidding documents can be examined at Kokosing Industrial, Inc., 6235 Westerville Rd., Westerville, OH 43081 or by calling Sonja Nichols at 614-212-5701. Please have your quote to Steve Ehret by 12:00 PM May 2, 2017: e-mail [snichols@kokosing.biz](mailto:snichols@kokosing.biz) or Fax 614-212-5711.

"Kokosing Industrial is an equal opportunity employer."

See full RFP at [www.OhioMBE.com/opportunities](http://www.OhioMBE.com/opportunities)

# bid opportunities

To post a bid notice, call 614-522-9122 or email [news@ohiombe.com](mailto:news@ohiombe.com)



Kokosing Industrial, Inc. is preparing bids for the Lick Run Valley Conveyance

System in Cincinnati, Ohio which bids April 28, 2017. We are seeking quotes for any portion of the project listed that you are qualified to perform or provide supplies for which includes the following: Testing Laboratory Services, Demolition, Concrete Reinforcement, Landscape/Hardscape, Masonry, Caulking, Painting & Coatings, Signage, Playground Equipment, Electrical, Trucking, Site Clearing, Dewatering, Drilled Piers & Shafts, Paving, Brick Pavers, Pavement Markings, Playground/Court/Grass Surfacing, Fencing, Retaining Walls, Irrigation Systems, Pond Aeration Systems, Contaminated Soil Classification/Disposal, Bridge Metal Railing, Brick/Stone Masonry on Bridges, Identification and Interpretive Signs.

Bidding documents can be examined at Kokosing Industrial, Inc., 6235 Westerville Rd., Westerville, OH 43081 or by calling Sonja Nichols at 614-212-5701. Please have your quote to Chad Lampe by 12:00 PM April 27, 2017: e-mail [snichols@kokosing.biz](mailto:snichols@kokosing.biz) or Fax 614-212-5711.

"Kokosing Industrial is an equal opportunity employer."



## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority is requesting proposals for Electrical Services for

Miscellaneous Repairs and/or Interior/Exterior Electrical Services and Related Work at Various AMHA Buildings, Apartments and Single Family Homes.

A pre-proposal conference will be held on Tuesday, May 2, 2017, at 2:00 p.m. at 100 West Cedar Street, Akron, Ohio 44307.

Those interested in submitting a proposal for the aforementioned work may obtain the instructions/information package by contacting SE Blueprint, 540 South Main Street, Suite 211, Akron, Ohio 44311. (330) 376-1689 [seblue@seblueprint.com](mailto:seblue@seblueprint.com)

Proposals, to be considered, must be submitted in accordance with the requirements of the RFP and received by AMHA no later than 4:00 p.m. (local time) on Thursday, May 18, 2017.

Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority  
Anthony W. O'Leary  
Executive Director

## Need to meet your EDGE/MBE or Good Faith Contracting Efforts?

When you need EDGE or MBE participants, The 912 Group and OhioMBE can help.

Place your legal ad or bid notice in OhioMBE and our other media outlets.

[news@ohiombe.com](mailto:news@ohiombe.com) | 614-522-9122

MBE | EDGE | FBE | LEDE Certified

## Looking for bid notices? Look for OhioMBE online!



[www.facebook.com/ohiombe](http://www.facebook.com/ohiombe)  
[www.facebook.com/bidnotices](http://www.facebook.com/bidnotices)



[www.twitter.com/ohiombe](http://www.twitter.com/ohiombe)  
[www.twitter.com/bidnotices](http://www.twitter.com/bidnotices)

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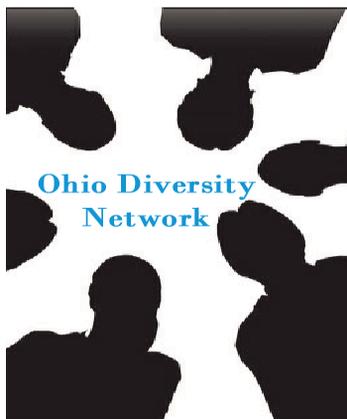
# #bidnotices

## Don't forget to vote

# Ohio Diversity Network

Get a weekly email from  
OhioDiversityNetwork.com  
notifying you of upcoming events.

Sign up online!



Ohio Diversity  
Network

Wednesday, April 19,  
2017 at 4:00pm  
[Cleveland WBC – Blog-  
ging for Your Business  
Meet up Group](#) Cleveland

Wednesday, April 19,  
2017 at 5:30pm  
[Cleveland WBC – Cash  
Flow](#) Cleveland

Friday, April 21, 2017 at  
12:00pm  
[WBC Columbus –  
Google Friday: Set  
Goals With Google Ana-  
lytics](#) Columbus

Saturday, April 22, 2017  
at 9:00am  
[Game Plan United – The  
Ultimate Game Plan](#) Lew-  
is Center

Monday, April 24, 2017  
at 7:30am  
[Columbus WBC – Dan  
Negroni Breakfast](#) Co-  
lumbus

Tuesday, April 25, 2017  
at 10:00am  
[ODOT DBE Roundtable  
District 8](#) Cincinnati

Tuesday, April 25, 2017  
at 12:00pm  
[Cleveland WBC – ECDI  
Information Session](#)  
Cleveland

Thursday, April 27, 2017  
at 12:00pm  
[Cleveland WBC – Entre-  
preneurial Readiness  
Training](#) Cleveland

Thursday, April 27, 2017  
at 6:08pm  
[Cleveland WBC – Risk  
Management](#) Cleveland

Tuesday, May 2, 2017 at  
9:00am  
[ODOT DBE Roundtable  
District 7](#) Sidney

Hosting a business  
event?

Did you know you can  
post it on  
[www.OhioDiversityNet  
work.com](http://www.OhioDiversityNet<br/>work.com)

Email:  
[news@ohiombe.com](mailto:news@ohiombe.com) for  
login information



## Certification 101 at WBC

Why you should get your business certified:

1. Additional contracting opportunities
2. Adds legitimacy to your business
3. Great marketing tool

Next class is May 6 at the Columbus Women's  
Business Center  
10:30 am to noon

We will discuss the certification process, local  
MBE, FBE, EDGE and DBE programs and what  
documents to submit with your  
application.

Register at [www.OhioMBE.eventbee.com](http://www.OhioMBE.eventbee.com)

*Can't attend a class? We can meet individually at the  
WBC. Email [rbarber@ohiombe.com](mailto:rbarber@ohiombe.com) to schedule an  
appointment*

The advertisement features a close-up photograph of a wooden gavel resting on a dark wooden surface. The gavel has a dark wood handle and a gold-colored band around the head. The background is a blurred wooden texture.

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Ohio is one of just 15 states that does not have a constitutional provision protecting victims' rights. While criminals have various rights under the Ohio Constitution, victims and their families have no enforceable protections. Crime victims, whose injuries and losses provide the basis for criminal prosecution, should be treated with fairness, dignity and respect; and their rights should be protected in a manner no less vigorous than those of the accused. We believe in and support equal rights for crime victims. <http://s.heyo.com/60e774>

- Bolstering and evaluating existing jobs programs, especially those targeted towards youth and returning citizens.
- Ensuring tax breaks are a net positive for the city and its residents, and allowing small and minority owned businesses more access to these tax abatements.

**Minority Owned Businesses**

There are several solutions I would like to propose to help current minority owned businesses and those looking to start their own. Successful minority owned businesses are the key to economic freedom in our communities.

- Improve access to and knowledge of City, State, and Federal grants available to minority owned businesses
  - Increased use of social media marketing for programs offered by the city
  - Hosting more events in accessible locations (rec centers, schools, churches)
- Provide mentorship for first time business owners
  - Pairing successful minority owned businesses with new businesses owners
  - Sharing institutional knowledge within our own community

Respectfully,  
Jasmine Ayres Candidate for Columbus City Council

acquisition

- Provide residents with job training to ensure better access to job opportunities and better wages
- Develop City strategies to harness the spending power of financially distressed communities

Columbus is viewed as a leader in economic growth in several industry reviews. Minority business cannot be left behind as the City plans for and creates policy for growth and opportunity for economic success. Further, as the City looks to revitalize distressed communities, across our city boundaries, the inclusion of minority businesses in this growth will be vital to the stabilization of our neighborhoods. I will be a strong advocate for the inclusion of minority owned businesses in this process

Will Petrik, Candidate for Columbus City Council

**ohiombe.com**

★ VOTE ★

# AMY HARKINS & ERIN UPCHURCH

FOR COLUMBUS CITY SCHOOL BOARD

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**Frank W. Watson Scholarship**

Please consider making a donation to the Frank W. Watson Scholarship. The scholarship provides financial assistance to local students seeking post-secondary education. Donate while you shop with Kroger Rewards at <http://bit.ly/2maJa4t> Our rewards number is 24581.

If you shop Amazon, consider [Smile.Amazon.com](http://Smile.Amazon.com). Select the Ohio Business Development Center as your charity.

**OhioMBE can announce your next business event, employment notice or news item in an exclusive email blast.**

We will also post it on our Facebook and Twitter pages.

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# business directory

## OhioBizDirectory.com



Include your business in our online directory



**Kenny Morgan**  
Owner

Everlasting Cleaning Concepts  
614-599-1014  
Everlastcleaningconcepts@gmail.com  
2906 Whitlow Rd  
Col,ohio 43232

614.407.6001  
35 East Gay Street, Ste 240 | Columbus, Ohio 43215  
info@headshotscolumbus.com  
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news@OhioMBE.com.

It may appear in an upcoming issue of OhioFBE or  
OhioMBE.

# business directory

## Have you considered...

- Selling your business?
- Buying another similar business?
- Expanding your current business?

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*The 7 Critical Points*  
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**Before Selling Your Business!**

John Morris

Business Intermediary  
Phone (614) 735-1233

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Security Guards . Surveillance Cameras . Alarm Systems . Door Access



## Here are some tips to help you attract your first customers:

**Leverage your relationships:** Ask people you know (family, friends, professional colleagues and casual acquaintances) for leads and referrals. You'll be amazed at how many connections you can make by tapping your existing relationships.

**Put your business online:** Get a website for your business so prospective customers can learn about the products and services you provide. Many all-inclusive and cost-effective website packages exist (such as [GoDaddy](#), [Web.com](#) and [Intuit Websites](#)). For an e-commerce business, you'll want to find a website service that enables you to develop a site with online sales capabilities. Some examples include [Shopify](#), [Volusion](#) or [3DCart](#).

**Embrace social media:** Get social with your target market by setting up business accounts on online networks, such as Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, Twitter and Pinterest. By sharing information, linking to your website and interacting on these platforms, you'll be able to build a following for your business. The key to social media success is to engage with your fans and followers regularly so you gain the top-of-mind advantage.

**Advertise locally:** If your business will focus on local customers, get some ink in local print publications. Advertising in local magazines, newspapers and business/community directories can give you valuable exposure. Also consider advertising your business on websites that members of your target market visit frequently. Even if a website caters to a national audience, you can get advertising directed only at website visitors within ZIP codes nearest to you.

**Reach out via email:** Market directly to prospects and customers by asking them to subscribe to email messages from your business. You can craft professional-looking email marketing messages using services like [Constant Contact](#), [iContact](#) and [Campaigner](#). Just make sure your business complies with the FTC's CAN-SPAM laws!

**Generate publicity:** You can gain valuable exposure for your business by doing some outreach to bloggers who speak to your target audience. By offering to submit guest blog posts or serve as a subject matter expert for posts on certain topics, you can introduce your business to more prospective customers.

**Go direct:** Consider launching a direct mail campaign to reach prospects in your community. One efficient and affordable way to do this is through The UPS Store's "[Every Door Direct Mail](#)" service. All you need to do is choose the neighborhood where you want to advertise, and The UPS Store will take care of all the details involved in sending your direct mail advertising piece to every address in that area.

**Use the buddy system:** By forming referral partnerships with other small businesses, you can help one another get customers. For instance, if you have a dog grooming business, you could buddy up with a local pet-sitting business to refer clients to each other.

**Offer an incentive:** Special deals and discounts can attract attention—and new customers. This can work exceptionally well if your business provides recurring services. For example, if you have a lawn care and landscaping business, you might offer six months' worth of service at the price normally paid for three months.

**Showcase your expertise:** Build a reputation as an industry expert through speaking to local groups and business organizations that your target customers belong to. By sharing your expertise and insight on topics that matter to them, you can attract attention and gain respect from prospective clients.

Ready to move forward in getting your business off the ground? Continue by reading the full "16 Steps to Starting a Business While Working Full Time" guide at <http://bit.ly/2ooaiKy>



# Support Women-Owned Businesses

## Business Profile: Just Naturally Yummy Bakery and Catering Company



The hands and talent owned by a determined baker are true blessings. It takes heart to knead piles of dough, made of love and secret ingredients. Brandi Muhammad, the Founder, Visionary, and CEO of Just Naturally Yummy Bakery and Catering Company, LLC, embodies all that and more. Not only is she a successful entrepreneur, she is also the mother of three beautiful children, a wife, a sister, daughter and friend.

For over a decade, Brandi has been working towards her goal of being a business owner. She learned about enterprises from working with local business owners, perfecting her customer service skills, and staying on top of her education. She holds an Associate's Degree in Food Service and Restaurant Management from Columbus State Community College and is now working toward her Bachelor's Degree in Marketing.

While being a well-rounded individual, Brandi is not a stranger to this industry. She is a social media guru, networking queen, and a passionate advocate for children. Brandi volunteers at local schools as a parent consultant in her spare time. She travels to a variety of events to gain exposure locally and abroad. Her radiating smile, captivating spirit, and comforting energy make children and adults gravitate toward her wherever she goes.

Living by the quote, "nothing great in the world has ever been accomplished without passion" by Christian Friedrich Hebbel, Brandi accomplishes, and continues to accomplish, her goals with an intense passion for baking. Just Naturally Yummy Bakery and Catering Company, LLC, or JNY Bakery for short, specializes in making delicious bread and other baked goods from quality ingredients that are organic and fresh. Alongside her equally talented children, Brandi loves to make cinnamon, dinner rolls, and gourmet cakes, just to name a few. She has creatively branded them as Breadbaker 1, 2, and 3 via social media. They are part of the reason why JNY Bakery was created; Brandi wanted to have an empire with her family that could be passed down from generation to generation.

If you would like to try the baked goods or catering services for yourself, call 614-290-3415, visit <http://www.jnybakery.com/>



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