



*For Release: July 20, 2023*

## **City of Charleston Business Services Division to Host Annual Lender Matchmaking Event**

**Charleston, S.C.**—The city of Charleston Business Services Division, in partnership with the Small Business Administration (SBA) and Veterans Business Outreach Center (VBOC), will host its annual Lender Matchmaking Event from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Friday, August 4, 2023 in the Citadel's new Bastin Hall, located at 79 Hagood Avenue.

During the free event, "lender ready" entrepreneurs and business owners will have the opportunity to connect with lenders and resource partners one-on-one to discuss borrowing options. To make the most of this opportunity, attendees are encouraged to bring copies of their business plans and financial statements.

With a group of 15 unique lenders scheduled to attend, including local community development financial institutions like the CLIMB Fund and CommunityWorks, attendees will have the opportunity to pitch their request to multiple lenders.

Ruth Jordan, Minority & Women-Owned Business Enterprise Manager for the City of Charleston, said, "Access to capital is one of the most common barriers to success for small and minority-owned businesses. That's why we're so proud to host this event each year – alongside our terrific partners – to help address that challenge right here in our community."

William Furman, Senior Area Manager for the Small Business Administration's SC District Office, said, "The Small Business Administration is pleased to work with our partners to bring this unique event to Charleston to help small businesses address their borrowing needs by giving them the chance to meet with multiple lenders at one place and time."

In addition to lenders, resource partner organizations including SCORE, South Carolina Small Business Development Center, the Internal Revenue Service and others will be present to provide technical assistance. Light refreshments and lunch will also be provided.

While this event is free, registration is required to attend. To register, please visit [chslendermatchmaking.eventbrite.com](https://chslendermatchmaking.eventbrite.com)

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