## SPOTLIGHT THE NON-PROFIT

COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY

## THE BLACK COMMUNITY COLLECTIVE

The Black Community Collective (BCC) is a 501c3 nonprofit located in Reno, NV, and has operated since 2022. The BCC began as an idea. Local Black community members met in November 2021. They shared ideas on how the Black community in Reno/Sparks could create something that would support not just the Black community, but anyone in the Reno/Sparks area. The ideas led to the formation of the BCC, an organization with a vision to build a self-sustaining Black community that supports both the Black community and other communities in the Reno/Sparks area by providing financial and business opportunities.

The BCC meets its mission and vision by providing business and personal financial literacy programs, business-focused events, fiscal sponsorship, and microloans to local small businesses. In addition to these services, we provide a range of technical assistance to businesses, such as business plans and strategy development, and business process optimization. We also build partnerships and collaborate with other local organizations.

Our business literacy program will be offered once a month when it relaunches in 2026 and will focus on people management, financial management, and operations management. The personal financial management classes are currently being offered on the first and third Thursdays of the month. These courses focus on financial planning, budgeting and savings, debt management, tax preparation, and credit score awareness. These programs are offered free to the public when available.

Quarterly, we also host a business mixer for local small business owners, and every April, we offer our Business and Bankers event (B&B). The quarterly mixers generally happen at a local business and feature local business vendors, opportunities to network, and





speakers. For the B&B, we partner with other nonprofits and businesses to host a range of local banks and governmental institutions that have information that can help local small businesses grow. This event has seen a 150% increase in attendance and an increase from three vendors to eight between its first and second years. Finally, we host our annual gala in mid-November, where we honor local members of our community. Our business-focused events allow local businesses to meet local leaders in the financial and business sectors of Reno.

Financial solutions for businesses, microloans, and fiscal sponsorships are also services offered by the BCC. Our microloans are offered to local small businesses and range from \$500 to \$5000 for up to one year, with reasonable interest rates, and are open to anyone who may not qualify for a traditional bank loan. Our fiscal sponsorship program allows nonprofits and for-profits to focus on their area of expertise while we handle the administrative and legal aspects for them. Both the microloans and fiscal sponsorship are revenue-generating services for the BCC. Both of these programs

are structured to support individuals involved. The BCC uses its network to assist those involved in these programs by leveraging opportunities for exposure, business, and technical assistance.

The BCC is an asset for our community that provides business and personal financial options and access. We also host business-focused events along with our annual gala. Our services are focused on small businesses and are available to all.



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