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For Immediate Release

Free Business Advising is Now Available at the Meriden City Hall

Storrs, Connecticut: A new partnership has developed between The Connecticut Small Business Development Center (CTSBDC) and the city of Meriden that will deliver confidential business advising to entrepreneurs in every stage of business and all industry sectors in Meriden. The new CTSBDC office location is at the Meriden City Hall, 142 East Main Street, Meriden, CT 06540.

CTSBDC Business Advisor Shelly Koehler will be available in this new location and she comments, "I am pleased to open our new Meriden office located at the Meriden City Hall, room 134 at 142 East Main Street, Meriden CT. This new office puts us directly into the path of serving new and existing businesses in the Meriden area, which is our primary purpose." Office hours will be Every Tuesday 9 – 4:30.

With 331,386 small businesses* located in the state of Connecticut, it is important to be embedded within the communities we serve," said Emily Carter, state director of the CTSBDC. "This is why we partnered with the City of Meriden to offer office hours at the Meriden City Hall. Existing local helps us to better understand the unique needs required of Meriden small business owners and therefore provide customized, beneficial business advising services to help increase economic development in this area."

City Manager Lawrence J. Kendzior commented on the partnership by stating, "This beneficial affiliation ensures that Meriden's small businesses have access to necessary resources ready to assist the entrepreneurs in Meriden," he continues "This allows for economic growth and job creation in our city."

Economic Development Director Juliet Burdelski said, "Having our own small business advisor here at Meriden City Hall will be a great asset to businesses of all types—from startups to larger businesses and manufacturers. We encourage any business looking to expand here in Meriden to take advantage of the free resources offered here at City Hall."

To become a CTSBDC client, visit GrowCT.com and register for business advising. The registration link can be found at the top right side of the home page or by [clicking here](#).



The Connecticut Small Business Development Center is funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration, the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development and the University of Connecticut.



In addition to office hours in the Meriden City Hall, CTSBDC has established a virtual location at the Meriden Public Library. Adding to the nearly 30 Virtual CTSBDC locations around the state, the new station in Meriden offers a laptop equipped with Google Hangouts. Individuals wishing to connect with a CTSBDC business advisor can meet virtually right from the library. This virtual setup is confidential and allows individuals to work on business documents and applications for funding with the help of skilled business advisors, all without leaving Meriden. For more information about the Virtual CTSBDC program, visit <http://ctsbdc.com/virtual/>.

About the Connecticut Small Business Development Center

The Connecticut Small Business Development Center (CTSBDC) provides no-cost, confidential business advising services to small business owners and entrepreneurs in every stage of business development and growth in the state of Connecticut.

CTSBDC business advisors are prepared to assist with a range of business issues including investigating capital opportunities, loan preparation, international trade, growth strategies, market research, marketing plans, disaster preparedness and more. This program operates under the guidance of the lead office at the University of Connecticut School of Business and features 35 locations, plus offers access to Virtual CTSBDC at 27 public libraries statewide.

CTSBDC is funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration, the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development and the University of Connecticut, and is a member of America's SBDC, celebrating 35 years of providing proven technical assistance to small businesses in over 1000 centers nationwide.

For more information or to register for business advising, visit GrowCT.com, Facebook.com/GrowCT, Twitter.com/GrowCT and LinkedIn.com/company/ctsbdc.

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