



BRIDGEWAY
CAPITAL

Entrepreneurship Hub



Erie Minority-Owned
Business Accelerator



**BRIDGEWAY
CAPITAL**

We connect opportunity with capital.

Bridgeway provides loans for small businesses and real estate projects that create economic opportunity in communities that need it most.

We are on a mission to make capital available to build a vibrant regional economy where everyone thrives. As a mission-driven lender, we provide fair, flexible financing for entrepreneurs and community partners that create social and economic impact in underinvested communities. Our funding solutions help our clients pursue new opportunities for economic mobility, create jobs, and revitalize neighborhoods.

Together, we are building a stronger local economy for all.



Since 1990, Bridgeway has been at the forefront of community and economic development. We take a market-based approach to community development by providing lending capital to create economic opportunities and revitalize communities. Bridgeway is a Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) certified by the U.S. Treasury Department.

From our offices in Erie, Pittsburgh, and Uniontown, we connect entrepreneurs with capital to build businesses and revitalize communities across western Pennsylvania.

ERIE

1001 State Street,
Suite 1400
Erie, PA 16501

Phone: 814.451.1172
Fax: 814.451.1150

PITTSBURGH

707 Grant St.,
Suite 1920
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Phone: 412.201.2450
Fax: 412.201.2451

UNIONTOWN

30 E. Main Street,
Suite 200
Uniontown, PA 15401

Phone: 412-930-0511
Fax: 412.201.2451



Grow your business.
Grow your network.

When building a business, there are often more unknowns than knowns. Bridgeway’s Entrepreneurship Hub helps you navigate entrepreneurship. Its Erie Minority-Owned Business Accelerator can help you turn obstacles into opportunities for business growth.

If you’re an entrepreneur – whether that means you have just developed a business plan or have a long track record of success – and are looking to take your business to the next level, the Erie Minority-Owned Business Accelerator program is designed for you. We are seeking driven and focused entrepreneurs that are ready to set a vision for business growth and take action to achieve it.

The 9-month accelerator program selects entrepreneurs to learn as a cohort, build their networks, and develop plans for business growth. Seminars and networking events focus on customer discovery, market validation, financial management, business development and professional network development.

PROGRAM AT-A-GLANCE



AUGUST - APRIL

Meet as a cohort for seminars and networking events, while you develop a business growth plan with trusted advisers.



MAY AND BEYOND

Next, you’ll take the lead on your business growth plan with access to your advisers and the Entrepreneurship Hub.



Charting a course for success.

Grow your businesses through an action-focused process.



360° ASSESSMENT

Get a 360° view of your business.

We'll start with a visual checklist that gives you a complete 360° view of your business to identify key focus areas to move your business forward. Then, working with a team of trusted business advisers, you will develop a business growth plan to set actionable goals and measure your progress.



SEMINARS

Navigate entrepreneurship.

Take part in 4 facilitated workshops with your cohort of entrepreneurs. As a group, you will explore business concepts and navigate entrepreneurship together. These sessions will be roughly 3 hours each and will occur every other month over the 9 month Accelerator.



NETWORKING

Grow your network and make it work for you.

Networking events will be scheduled over the course of the nine months and may include round table sessions, panel discussions, social networking engagements, and coffee meetings in small groups.



COACHING

Structured conversations about your business.

Your coach will help you build a custom toolbox to help you take action. They will help hold you accountable and keep you on track.



WORK WITH EXPERTS

Access expertise to close gaps.

We'll help you identify the strengths and gaps you'll encounter as you execute your business growth plan. Then we'll help you build a "brain trust" of trusted experts and advisers invested in your success to help you close gaps.



GROWTH PLAN

The proving grounds.

After 9 months, you'll take the lead and test your new skills and network. The business growth plan you create will guide you. Our business coaches and your brain trust will be available during this period. You'll take the lead, but we'll stand with you to achieve your goals.

Start your application.

We seek entrepreneurs who use the power of business to make a difference in their community.

APPLY

Please submit your application by July 1st. To get started, click on and complete the online inquiry form below.

GET STARTED

TIMELINE

- **July 1st:** Applications Due
- **August:** 360° Business Assessment
- **September:** Seminar
- **October:** Networking Event
- **November:** Seminar
- **December:** Coaching Session
- **January:** Seminar
- **February:** Networking Event
- **March:** Seminar
- **April:** Graduation Event
- *After graduating from the cohort learning phase, you take the lead and test your new skills and network. Your business growth plan will guide you with access to your advisers and Entrepreneurship Hub.*

For information contact:

Cathryn Easterling
Erie Office Director
ceasterling@bridgewaycapital.org
814.451.1150

Talpha Harris
Entrepreneurship Hub Manager
tharris@bridgewaycapital.org
412.201.2450



Bridgeway Client
Learning Ladder