

JANUARY 1TH, 2021

# CLINTON CHAMBER BEAT

## Greater Clinton Area Chamber of Commerce

Presents

**LOVE LOCAL THIS VALENTINE'S DAY**

You may have a lot of loves in your life. Your spouse, kids, mom and dad, grandma and grandpa, dogs, cats, friends, the Chiefs, music. The list can be long. Here at the Greater Clinton-Area Chamber of Commerce, one thing we love is our local businesses. That's why we want you to shop with them and enter our new promotion: Love Local This Valentine's Day.

Here's what you need to do: After you spend \$25 or more from Chamber businesses, you will need to bring those receipts to the Chamber and we will sign a Valentine's Day card with your name on it.

You can enter different receipts as many times as you want but the purchases must be made from Chamber businesses Jan. 11th through Feb. 14th. You can take a picture of the receipts and email them to [david@clintonmo.com](mailto:david@clintonmo.com) or [joyce@clintonmo.com](mailto:joyce@clintonmo.com).

Joyce and David will put all the entries into a box and draw out our winner at Noon on Feb. 15th.

The winner will receive a gift basket from the Chamber filled with items and gift certificates from our Chamber members. Certificates may include food, drinks, merchandise, supplies and more.

So stop by the Depot at 200 South Main St. from 8am until 4:30pm Monday through Friday, or email, and let us copy those receipts and put your name on a Valentine's Day card.

You can find a list of our Chamber members at [clintonmo.com](http://clintonmo.com), call or stop by and we can give you a list. Chamber businesses also should have the Clinton Chamber logo near the front of their business. If you have any questions, stop by, call 885-8166 or email us...we'll help you out!



# West Central Missouri Community Action Agency and New Growth

## Rural west central Missouri to launch Women's Business Center with SBA grant

The new entrepreneurship resource will serve 15 counties from offices in El Dorado Springs, Missouri

[APPLETON CITY, MO] The U.S. Small Business Administration announced this week that rural west central Missouri will soon operate one of the nation's newest Women's Business Centers. A grant to West Central Missouri Community Action Agency (West Central) will support development of the New Growth Women's Business Center (WBC), to be based in El Dorado Springs, Missouri. It will serve 15 counties: 13 in Missouri (Barton, Bates, Benton, Camden, Cedar, Dade, Dallas, Henry, Hickory, Morgan, Polk, St. Clair, and Vernon) and two in Kansas (Bourbon and Crawford). West Central received one of 20 awards made nationwide.

"We are honored to be chosen for this opportunity to build up business resources and assistance for rural women entrepreneurs," said Chris Thompson, West Central's President and CEO. "It is a testament to the creativity and commitment of organizations that have joined forces with us as the START HERE Business Acceleration Network to build a stronger rural future for all."

START HERE members include Kaysinger Basin Regional Planning Commission and its economic development team, the Small Business Development Center at State Fair Community College, University of Missouri Extension-West Central Region, Osage Valley Electric Cooperative, and the statewide entrepreneurship resource MOSourceLink. West Central affiliate the New Growth community development corporation convenes and coordinates the START HERE Business Acceleration Network and START HERE Revolving Loan Fund.

**New Business Resources.** SBA's national network of 136 Women's Business Centers offers one-on-one counseling, training, networking, workshops, technical assistance, and mentoring to women entrepreneurs on numerous business development topics, including business startup, financial management, marketing, and procurement.

Already, START HERE partners are working together to increase services available to rural entrepreneurs, including new microenterprise financing and the regional Farm to Fork Summit, coming up in February, with practical workshops for area food and farm entrepreneurs. The SBA award will help the region add much-needed on-the-ground business counseling services, trainings, and resources, such as business mentoring and support obtaining certifications for government contracting.

"The programs about to launch from the New Growth Women's Business Center will be groundbreaking, innovative, and revolutionary for women entrepreneurs in rural areas," said New Growth WBC board member Martha Sander, Executive Director of The Council on Families in Crisis in Nevada, MO. "Women-owned businesses are few and far between, with many traditional and non-traditional barriers that prevent success."

Carol Gallagher, Professor of Organizational Leadership at Cottey College in Nevada is another New Growth WBC board member along with Dallas County Economic Development Executive Director Holly Elliott and Benton County Economic Developer Jo Ann Lane. Gallagher said: "Women in our region are eager for opportunity, and this initiative will bring much-needed resources to those women determined to succeed in business."

Lisa Zimmerman, Economic Inclusion Director at West Central will lead development of the New Growth WBC with West Central affiliate New Growth community development corporation. "More than ever, rural communities must recognize and lift up local women and men with skills and business ideas they can use to employ themselves and others," Zimmerman said. "The current pandemic has underlined the importance of building local economies from local assets, including the power and potential of women entrepreneurs."

Women-owned businesses lead the way nationally in business development, employment, and revenue. In the 2018-2019 timeframe, the number of U.S. women-owned businesses increased 21%, while all businesses increased only 9%. Total employment by women-owned businesses rose 8%, while for all businesses the increase was far lower at 1.8%. Total revenue for women-owned businesses also rose slightly above all businesses: 21% compared to 20% respectively. Source: State of Women-Owned Business Report.

# COVID-19 Relief Bill

The good news: As you've probably heard, a \$900 billion federal relief package was finalized — including additional weekly unemployment benefits and another round of stimulus checks for individuals.

The best news: It also contains much-needed resources for employers.

Small Business Association (SBA), in consultation with the U.S. Treasury Department, will open the Paycheck Protection Program loan portal on Monday, January 11, 2021 at 9 am ET

## **Loan Detail**

The Paycheck Protection Program is a loan designed to provide a direct incentive for small businesses to keep their workers on the payroll.

SBA will forgive loans if all employee retention criteria are met, and the funds are used for eligible expenses.

- PPP loans have an interest rate of 1%.
- Loans issued prior to June 5 have a maturity of 2 years. Loans issued after June 5 have a maturity of 5 years.
- Loan payments will be deferred for borrowers who apply for loan forgiveness until SBA remits the borrower's loan forgiveness amount to the lender. If a borrower does not apply for loan forgiveness, payments are deferred 10 months after the end of the covered period for the borrower's loan forgiveness (either 8 weeks or 24 weeks).
- No collateral or personal guarantees are required.
- Neither the government nor lenders will charge small businesses any fees.

## **Loan Forgiveness**

Borrowers may be eligible for loan forgiveness if the funds were used for eligible payroll costs, payments on business mortgage interest payments, rent, or utilities during either the 8- or 24-week period after disbursement. A borrower can apply for forgiveness once it has used all loan proceeds for which the borrower is requesting forgiveness. Borrowers can apply for forgiveness any time up to the maturity date of the loan. If borrowers do not apply for forgiveness within 10 months after the last day of the covered period, then PPP loan payments are no longer deferred and borrowers will begin making loan payments to their PPP lender.

**For more information and how to apply please check the Clinton Economic Development Facebook and Clinton Chamber of Commerce Facebook page.**

# Chamber Business Info



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**Lora Anstine**  
- Broker/Owner -

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## ASQ Certified Quality Engineer Preparation Course for ASQ/CQE Exam



Quality excellence to enhance your career and boost your organization's bottom line

Enroll in this course for knowledge or as a preparation for the American Society for Quality Certified Quality Engineer certification exam. The Certified Quality Engineer (CQE) is a professional who understands the principles of product and service quality evaluation and control. Certification from ASQ is considered a mark of quality excellence in many industries. It helps you advance your career and boosts your organization's bottom line through your mastery of quality skills. Each certification candidate is required to pass an examination that consists of multiple-choice questions that measure comprehension of the body of knowledge.

This body of knowledge and applied technologies include, but are not limited to:

- Development and operation of quality control systems
- Application and analysis of testing and inspection procedures
- The ability to use metrology and statistical methods to diagnose and correct improper quality control practices
- An understanding of human factors and motivation
- Familiarity with quality cost concepts and techniques and the knowledge and ability to develop and administer management information systems and to audit quality systems for deficiency identification and correction.

Required education and/or experience for certification: Review [here](#)

### Class Schedule:

- Feb. 2; 8a-noon Virtual
- Feb. 9; 8a-noon Virtual
- Feb. 16; 8a-noon Virtual
- Feb. 23; 8a-noon Virtual
- March 3; 8a-4p On-Site

### Cost:

\$2,099.00 per person  
*Exam fees not included*

### Location:

Virtual & On-Site  
at State Fair Community  
College, Sedalia campus

[Register Here](#)

### CONTACT US

The LearningForce | Your Training Partner  
3201 West 16th Street | Sedalia, MO 65301  
phone | (660) 530-5822  
email | [thelearningforce@sfccmo.edu](mailto:thelearningforce@sfccmo.edu)  
web | [www.sfccmo.edu/the-learning-force](http://www.sfccmo.edu/the-learning-force)

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## ASQ Certified Quality Engineer Preparation Course for ASQ/CQE Exam

### Course Outline

#### Pre-work:

- Self-study course followed by live discussion on studying, applying, the exam process, and test taking tips.
- Complete a pretest before the live course to see where you need to focus your study efforts.

#### Virtual sessions include the following objectives:

- Quality system planning and principles
- Teamwork and motivation
- QMS documentation and ISO 9001-2015
- Cost of Quality
- Product design for reliability
- Process control including inspection plans
- Measurement and calibration
- Basic quality tools, Six Sigma, Lean, Kaizen, and others
- Risk planning, measurement, control
- Understanding quantitative methods and core statistical concepts

#### Face-to-face session includes the following objectives:

- Control charting, process capability indexes
- Confidence intervals, hypothesis testing, regression, correlation, designed experiments

Following course completion, trainees are responsible for applying to take the ASQ/CQE certification test on their own. Exam fees are not included in the cost of the course.



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## A note from Greater Clinton Area Chamber of Commerce

If you have not received your 2021 Membership invitation to be a Chamber member give us a call at 660-885-8166, email [joyce@clintonmo.com](mailto:joyce@clintonmo.com) or [david@clintonmo.com](mailto:david@clintonmo.com) or just simply drop by.

Due to the increase in numbers of COVID-19 the Chamber office doors are locked to the public.

If you need assistance, please call 660-885-8166 or email [joyce@clintonmo.com](mailto:joyce@clintonmo.com) or [david@clintonmo.com](mailto:david@clintonmo.com).

Thank you for understanding,  
David and Joyce.



# NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH

## **Big Brothers Big Sisters Asks Us All to Make the Big Resolution**

**January is National Mentoring Month, and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Henry County is celebrating those who are already volunteering as mentors, “Bigs”, and also recruiting volunteers.**

**Every January, the news is full of the same stories: people are trying to eat more healthfully, hit the gym more often. This year, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Henry County is changing that story and asking: What if this year, you could resolve to something more important, more impactful? What if you could make a resolution worth keeping, one that inspires more resolutions? In 2021, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Henry County is asking people in Henry County to resolve to become a Big Brother or Big Sister.**

**“Bettering yourself in the new year is a great goal,” said Big Brothers Big Sisters of Henry County Executive Director, Andy Ford “but we know people are also thinking about how to better their community and how to make sure that when they reflect on the year, they know they made a difference.”**

**More than a dozen youth in Henry County are waiting to be matched with a Big Brother or Big Sister, and the only way to ensure they have someone to inspire them to reach their potential is for more adults to step up and volunteer to become Bigs. Being a Big means committing to spending a few hours a month with a young person doing things that you love to do, like playing basketball, visiting the library, or learning how to cook.**

**On social media, Henry County residents can get involved by following Big Brothers Big Sisters of America and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Henry County on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. Throughout the month, Big Brothers Big Sisters is encouraging followers to tag a friend who would be a great Big Brother or Big Sister, using the hashtag #TheBigResolution. Visit [www.thebigresolution.com](http://www.thebigresolution.com) to learn more.**