

## Entrepreneurship Resources for Main Street Conference 2017

Resources for young adult entrepreneurship:

- For 18-30 year-olds living in one of the 80 Rural Counties in N.C.: Contact Amanda Sorrells at the N.C. Rural Center about free coaching through New Generation Ventures; 919-250-4314 and [ncruralcenter.org](http://ncruralcenter.org)
- For 18-30 year olds wanting to follow the national scene of tech entrepreneurs: Young Entrepreneurs Council, [YEC.co](http://YEC.co), is a media-rich blogging and webinar platform for multimillionaire young entrepreneurs to provide free advice to other young adults.

For adults wanting to start or grow a business in NC:

- Business Link NC: 1-800-228-8443 and [blnc.gov](http://blnc.gov), a call center for business inquiries
- Small Business Centers at 58 community colleges: [ncsbc.net](http://ncsbc.net), geared to startups and mom & pops, business planning
- Small Business and Tech Development Centers at UNC campuses: [sbtcd.org](http://sbtcd.org), geared to small businesses and growth-oriented firms

For middle and high school students:

- NC Department of Public Instruction has entrepreneurship courses within Career and Technical Education. State point of contact at DPI is Delores Ali.
- [NCREAL.org](http://NCREAL.org) is an entrepreneurship training program for teachers throughout the state. It is a hands-on model for learning about entrepreneurship for both youth and adults. Many ag students across NC have experienced NC REAL activities the last few years.
- [NC4H.ces.ncsu.edu](http://NC4H.ces.ncsu.edu) is the North Carolina 4-H Youth Development program, which is run through extension offices in 100 counties. Many 4-H projects are related to running an agricultural business.
- In Nebraska, the 4-H developed the ESI (modeled after CSI) at University of Nebraska/Lincoln and the curriculum is available in NC and other states. [Esi.unl.edu](http://Esi.unl.edu)

For community leaders interested in entrepreneurship:

1. Entrepreneurial Places LLC provides assessment, strategy retreats, measurement and best practices for communities in the economic development of entrepreneurship; see [www.entrepreneurialplaces.com](http://www.entrepreneurialplaces.com)
2. The national Center for Rural Entrepreneurship has a meaty free newsletter and a database of community tools for entrepreneur engagement. [www.energizingentrepreneurs.org](http://www.energizingentrepreneurs.org)
3. The Certified Entrepreneurial Community program, originated in western North Carolina, is active again, and Cleveland County NC just became the newest CEC. [www.creativecec.com](http://www.creativecec.com) Currently the Town of Holly Springs NC is developing itself as an entrepreneurial town.