

NEWS RELEASE  
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## IOWA CENTER ANNOUNCES 2022 SMALL BUSINESS IMPACT RESULTS

**Des Moines, Iowa** – The Iowa Center announced that 2022 was a successful year for the organization’s three lines of direct service empowering entrepreneurs seeking support to launch or grow their small businesses.

“The start of a new calendar year is a great time to reflect on the importance of small business in our lives. We look to small businesses to help us celebrate when we shop for a gift or celebrate with dinner out; to provide skilled healthcare and childcare for our most precious loved ones; to care for and maintain our homes; and to provide legal and financial advice. Small businesses serve our communities with care and compassion,” said Megan Milligan, President + CEO of The Iowa Center. “But managing a small business is complicated. The Iowa Center team is passionately committed to our entrepreneurs, and supporting them with knowledge, skills and confidence as they progress on their small business journeys.”

The Iowa Center announced its 2022 Impact Results:

- 510 small business clients received 1:1 Business Coaching
- The Iowa Center empowered 21 new business starts, and creation of 52 new jobs
- Iowa Center Loan Fund disbursed 11 loans totaling \$307,650
- The Iowa Center led the Statewide Volunteer Incomes Tax (VITA) program which prepared 11,442 tax returns and secured \$18,502,920 in state and federal refunds for low-income Iowans
- The Iowa Center Loan Fund was certified as a CDFI, and The Iowa Center was certified as an SBA Microlender
- The Iowa Center opened its Eastern Iowa service office in Muscatine, Iowa

The Iowa Center is an economic development organization that delivers three lines of direct services to empower entrepreneurs to launch or grow their small businesses: Business Coaching, Credit + Lending, and Tax Services. Iowa Center services are available to all entrepreneurs, but many clients seek The Iowa Center’s support to overcome an obstacle in the marketplace: 72% of The Iowa Center’s clients are low-to-moderate income; 71% are women; and 35% are people of color. The Iowa Center’s services are available to clients at low to no cost thanks to the generosity of our sponsors.