

Entrepreneur Ready Communities

Entrepreneurs and the businesses they create represent the economic future of rural communities. This is true whether the entrepreneurial ventures are new or growing. Small startup companies at a minimum provide self employment, while larger high impact growth companies often create a significant number of jobs. **TCRE** works with communities providing assessments, educational programs, planning and other important elements of a program that leads to certification as an Entrepreneur Ready Community.

Entrepreneur Guides

Individuals with an interest in supporting entrepreneurs in their community can gain certification as an Entrepreneur Guide through a **TCRE** program. Criteria are posted on the web. They consist of participating in educational programs, providing technical assistance, offering educational programs and other activities.

Communities in Economic Transition

Consistent with active learning and action-oriented approaches, CET programs include:

- Community self-study and planning for economic diversification;
- Informational materials and technical assistance to help communities implement local plans;
- Local and inter-community workshops and discussion forums;
- Local and project progress monitoring;
- Networks of contacts with a wide variety of groups.



The **Texas Center for Rural Entrepreneurship (TCRE)** is a nonprofit 501(c)3 Texas corporation whose primary goal is to stimulate and support entrepreneurship in rural communities. This is accomplished through a virtual incubation system that provides education, information and technical assistance to entrepreneurs and community leaders. **TCRE** is involved in several strategic partnerships at the local, regional, state and federal levels.



An entrepreneurial rural Texas generating jobs, wealth, prosperity, and improved quality of life in dynamic and sustainable communities that are ensuring their heritage while fully participating in local, national, and international markets.



“Creating and growing businesses by connecting entrepreneurs and their communities with the capital, management and leadership resources they need to be successful”

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Providing support for:

- Education Programs
- Leadership
- Local entrepreneurship centers
- Certification programs
- Management strengthening programs
- Entrepreneur networks
- Capital connections
- Demonstration projects & case studies
- Web site resources



Assistance

The following are just some of the ways you can obtain assistance from **TCRE** resource providers. The basis for individual help with business venture development is the Business Profile which can be found on the web. If you already have a draft business plan, you can submit it or attach it to your profile.

- Preview resources, tools, and links on www.tcre.org
- Complete and submit a Business Profile or Community Profile depending on whether you want assistance for your business or community. Provide sufficient details and background so TCRE can research your situation prior to making direct contact and/or connecting you with appropriate resource providers.
- Submit specific questions to Ask the Expert (Utilities: Ask the Expert). We will do our best to provide you answers, assistance, references, or whatever else you need to start or grow a business
- Register for our newsletter and follow the blog for continuous advice.

If considerable one-on-one, confidential, or long-term assistance is needed, **TCRE** may suggest private resource providers or consultants to assist you in dealing with business development, planning, document preparation, and other more complex advanced business management functions.



Desired Outcomes

- Stronger Texas economy resulting from entrepreneurship, economic growth, and community development;
- Increased business activity from startups and growth companies;
- Entrepreneurs with greater access to capital, management and leadership resources;
- Communities with more positive business climates;
- Texas businesses more competitive in global economies;
- Youth with a greater knowledge of the concepts, skills, values and attitudes of entrepreneurship;
- Increased business development for local economic development

