

Small business training course to begin in Charleston

Institute, WV – “Come in, We’re Open!” is a common sign seen in storefronts across the country. West Virginia State University Extension Service hopes to see more of them popping up in Kanawha County. This month the organization is launching a new session of its small business development program, Opening Soon Inc. (OSI).

OSI is a multi-week training course that provides a comprehensive array of services designed to assist individuals who have a business idea but need help in getting it off the ground. Participants are taken on an educational journey from the idea stage through the development process of opening a business. While the program is intensive, OSI is designed for amateur entrepreneurs.

“People should come into the program with a working idea,” said Jules Bills, OSI Program Coordinator. “If you have a small business idea that’s attainable, this program will work for you.”

Training topics include idea development, market research, customer service, communication skills, time management, loan factors, marketing, business planning, and business financing.

The Opening Soon Inc. program will be offering two OSI sessions at the WVSVU Economic Development Center, located at 1506 Kanawha Boulevard West. The first session will begin May 19 and be held every Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for eight weeks. The second session will begin May 26 and is held each Tuesday from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. for ten weeks. The class is free with tuition covered through a grant from the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation.

For more information about Opening Soon Inc., contact Jules Bills at the West Virginia State University Economic Development Center at 304-720-1401.

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