



*An inclusive small business center for minority entrepreneurs*

## Channel's Mission:

Elevate and foster a thriving community of diverse entrepreneurs who scale into job creation through learning and development.

## Why are we doing this?

Live Oak Bank invested in Channel to increase diversity in business ownership in the Wilmington region. There are significant barriers to entry for the new majority, so we're designing learning programs and community support systems that make entrepreneurship more accessible to people from all walks of life. This diversifies and strengthens the regional economy and builds a pipeline of healthy businesses Live Oak is eager to serve. Specifically, we provide class A coworking space, technical advisors, professional service grants, and networking opportunities at no cost.

- The fastest path to generational wealth is entrepreneurship.
- Accessibility to resources is the #1 barrier for minority owners.
- Live Oak Bank can increase accessibility and in doing so, increase the health of the bank's loyal customer base and future pipeline.

## Our Services:

1. Class-A co-working space for entrepreneurs in the ILM region
2. High quality direct technical assistance to entrepreneurs  
(one-on-one coaching, professional services consulting, and business development tools and resources)
3. Nurture a community of entrepreneurs prepared to support each other  
***All services are provided free of charge.***

## Our commitments to clients:

- Listen first.
- Honor the entrepreneur's vision. Each journey is unique.
- Provide resources that are equitable and accessible.
- Build trust and a long-standing relationship with the community.
- Hold service and resources to the highest standards.

## How's It Going?

- Provided technical assistance to almost 500 small business owners.
- Produce about 40 learning, development, and networking events each year. Topics cover a range of focus areas including marketing, business planning, accounting, access to capital, HR, legal, and more.
- Clients have access to top tier professional service providers in the region including accountants and tax specialists, marketing and communications, human resources, grant writing specialists, and legal consultations through our Office Hours program to serve more complex needs.

## Contact:

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