



U.S. Small Business
Administration

CONGRATULATIONS

2019 NATIONAL AWARD WINNER

WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER OF THE YEAR



Montana Women's
BUSINESS CENTER

FOR OUTSTANDING INNOVATION AND YOUR ROLE IN
DRIVING OUR NATION'S ECONOMIC GROWTH



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Media Contact:
Paul Reichert, Executive Director
Prospera Business Network
preichert@prosperamt.org
406-587-3113

Montana Women's Business Center at Prospera Business Network Wins National Award

Bozeman, Mont. – The U.S. Small Business Administration has selected the Montana Women's Business Center at Prospera Business Network in Bozeman as the **2019 Women's Business Center of the Year**.

Prospera's WBC's Director, Suzi Berget White will accept the award on behalf of the center in Washington, D.C May 5th at the National Small Business Week awards ceremony.

"Montana is fortunate to have Suzi Berget White, the Montana Women's Business Center and Prospera Business Network to support the dreams of women entrepreneurs in our state, said Wayne Gardella, SBA Montana District Director. "Montana small businesses have greatly benefited from the working relationship with the Montana Women's Business Center." The Montana District Office is located in Helena.

The MT Women's Business Center (MTWBC) is one of more than 100 WBC's nationwide and is a one-stop shop for businesses and entrepreneurs looking to start and grow their own business.

With a focus on women, the MTWBC provides no-cost counseling sessions; 100+ low-cost professional trainings; 800+ online classes; scholarships; discounts for childcare; and assistance with business grants; and access to capital.

In 2019, Prospera's MT Women's Business Center launched the inaugural Impact Grant Fund for Montana women entrepreneurs. They have awarded \$20,000 to four women-owned businesses throughout the state to help create high paying jobs and propel their businesses to compete in national and local markets.

In 2018, the MT Women's Business Center teamed up with Google on the "Grow with Google" Bozeman event last November. Google was impressed with the partnership and donated \$50,000 to continue the programming in 2019 to business owners in Montana.

As entrepreneurship continues to grow in Montana, Prospera and the MT Women's Business Center program work with groups including the Montana Manufacturing Extension Center, Montana Photonics Industry Alliance, the City of Bozeman, the Small Business Development Centers and others to help business owners, both big and small, grow to the next level.

Each year since 1963, the president has issued a proclamation calling for the celebration of National Small Business Week. [National Small Business Week](#) is set as the first week in May, and this year the dates are May 5-11, with national events planned in Washington, D.C.; the week will continue with visits to Florida, Texas and Utah. During the week, SBA Administrator Linda McMahon will meet with small business owners, visit small businesses and hold round-table discussions.

Prospera Business Network and the Montana Women's Business Center program offer no-cost business counseling, professional trainings, business grants, loan financing, and economic research.

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