

ABOUT THE DIRECTORY wbcmaine.org

On October 1, 2004, the Women's Business Center at CEI launched www.wbcmaine.org, and the *Maine Women Business Owners Online Directory* was created. Now, in 2006, there are more than 200 women business owners subscribed. The second Maine Women Business Owners Expo had over 100 attendees with approximately 60 exhibitors present.

WHO CAN JOIN wbcmaine.org

To be a part of the Directory, a business must be at least 50% woman-owned and based in Maine, i.e., have offices and or employees/owners who reside in the state of Maine. It may be a part-time, seasonal or full-time enterprise.

BENEFITS wbcmaine.org

- ◆ Participate in person & online in educational forums with other women business owners throughout the state.
- ◆ Locate and network with other women's businesses in Maine.
- ◆ Create an online presence and explore new marketing opportunities.

BENEFITS *(cost savings)* wbcmaine.org

- ◆ Attend workshops at WBC and Maine SBDC at CEI at a 50% discount.
- ◆ Exhibit at the annual Maine Women Business Owners Expo for a minimal fee.

SUBSCRIPTION FEE wbcmaine.org

The Online Directory is a service of the *Women's Business Center at CEI*. This is reflected in our annual subscription fees, which are:

- ◆ \$50 a year for a client of the Women's Business Center at CEI, Maine Small Business Development Center, Coastal Enterprises, Inc., and/or Maine Centers for Women, Work, and Community.
- ◆ \$100 a year for woman-owned businesses who are not clients of the Women's Business Center or the above organizations.

Financial assistance is available for business owners who demonstrate a financial need.

"...To have an opportunity to learn how to make my business more successful...was just what I needed."

CONTRIBUTORS wbcmaine.org

Partners

- ◆ Women's Business Center at CEI
- ◆ Bank of America
- ◆ Lambert & Coffin

Sponsors

- ◆ Gorham Savings Bank
- ◆ Maine Hosting Solutions

Supporters

- ◆ Big Sky Bread Company
- ◆ Beth Ansheles Accounting Consulting
- ◆ Dark Star Photography
- ◆ Maine Women's Journal
- ◆ McLaughlin Financial Group Mortgages
- ◆ Stealthcat Computer Consulting
- ◆ Train the Brain

If you want to learn more about sponsoring the online directory, please visit wbcmaine.org to learn ways to become a partner, sponsor, or a supporter.

For more information about the online directory, please contact Tyrell Russell at 207-888-7552, ext. 167, or by e-mail at tar@ceimaine.org.

**Check out
www.wbcmaine.org!**

ABOUT WBC AT CEI

wbcmaine.org

Women-owned businesses account for 47% of all Maine businesses, and are an increasingly important part of the Maine economy. Between 1997 and 2004, the number of businesses owned by women in Maine grew by 16.6%. In 2004, there were 63,049 businesses that were at least 50% woman-owned in Maine, employing 75,214 people and generating \$9 billion in sales.

The Women's Business Center continues CEI's long-standing commitment to supporting women business owners, drawing on more than 20 years of experience in developing targeted training, business assistance and finance programs. Any woman who owns or is starting a business in Maine is invited to use the resources of the Center.

SERVICES OF THE WBC

wbcmaine.org

The women business counselors at the Center are responsive, knowledgeable individuals who understand firsthand the opportunities and barriers faced by women business owners.

Formal and informal services include:

General Business Support

- ◆ Confidential, one-on-one consultation for start-up and existing businesses;
- ◆ The Basics of Starting a Business training;
- ◆ On-site consultation for experienced business owners;
- ◆ Networking and peer support opportunities;
- ◆ Small group workshops on critical business issues;
- ◆ Maine Women Business Owners Online Directory.

CONTACT US AT THE WBC

wbcmaine.org

You can find general information about the Women's Business Center at CEI on our website at www.ceimaine.org under Business Advice and Training. For further information, or for business counseling, contact:

Marita L. Fairfield, Center Director and Internet/Website Business Counselor
POB 268, Wiscasset, ME 04578
Telephone: 207/882-7552
FAX: 207/882-7308
E-mail: mlf@ceimaine.org

Christie MacConnell, Business Counselor
2 Portland Fish Pier, Suite 201
Portland, ME 04101
Telephone: 207/772-5356, ext. 112
FAX: 207/772-5503
E-mail: cam@ceimaine.org
Christie will also meet with clients at:
7 No. Chestnut Street, Augusta, ME 04330

Telephone: 207/621-0245
FAX: 207/622-9739
OR

21 Bradeen Street, Springvale, ME 04083
Telephone: 207/324-0888, ext.211
FAX: 207/324-4822

Business Counselor
1 Stackpole Road, POB 679
Machias, ME 04654
Telephone: 207/255-0938
FAX: 207/255-4987
E-mail: cei@ceimaine.org

Check out www.wbcmaine.org!

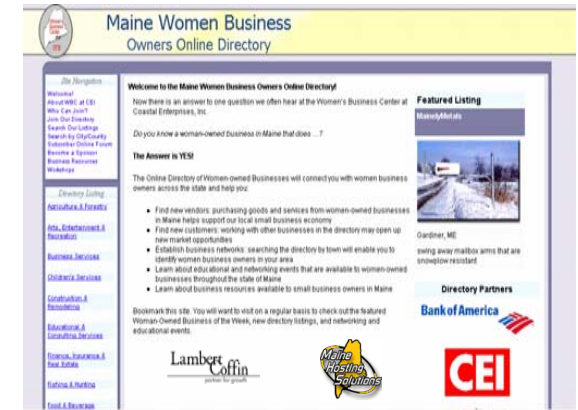
The Women's Business Center at CEI has a strategic alliance with the Maine Small Business Development Center and the Small Business Administration.

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Coastal Enterprises Inc.

Maine Women Business Owners Online Directory



The only statewide online directory of Maine women business owners.

www.wbcmaine.org