



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Yancey County Economic Development Commission Announces Grant Award through Downtown Entrepreneurship Assistance Program to Cast Iron Kitchen

"I'm pleased to announce a grant made through Yancey EDC's Downtown Entrepreneurship Assistance Program was awarded to Cast Iron Kitchen, a new downtown Burnsville restaurant located at 109 West Main Street. This grant marks the third DEAP grant announced by the Yancey County Economic Development Commission in 2021, a year that, despite challenges, is seeing a growing local economy in our community with a number of new downtown merchants opening shop" said Yancey County Economic Development Director, Jamie McMahan. Since its inception the Yancey County Economic Development Commission's Downtown Entrepreneurship Assistance Program has awarded over \$18,000 in grants to new local business startups and business expansions. "I and the members of the Yancey EDC Board of Directors want to offer Chef Chris Hall and his team at Cast Iron Kitchen a warm welcome to the Burnsville downtown merchant family" added McMahan. Cast Iron Kitchen provides high-quality food prepared from locally sourced, farm to table ingredients. Steaks, burgers, seafood and more served alongside handpicked wines and local beers can be enjoyed in a welcoming environment with both indoor and outdoor seating.

"The key to economic prosperity in any town, but especially in small town America, is a proactive approach to recruiting and developing our best assets; those in our own backyard- the entrepreneur" added EDC Director McMahan. "Creating a community that supports entrepreneurial development will generate profit for the entire county and will also fill a gap that directly benefits our specific economic needs."

The Burnsville Downtown Entrepreneur Assistance Program (DEAP). DEAP is an incentive grant program with the goal of creating new jobs, increasing revenue, and making downtown Burnsville an attractive option for business development. The purpose of this program is to support business recruitment by assisting new start-ups within the critical first six months of business.

The DEAP program requires applicants submit a written business plan when applying for the grant and may, depending upon the applicant's previous business experience, require attendance of business management and training courses at Mayland Community College through the Mayland Small Business Center, or other accredited institution offering the required courses and will require recipients to create at least one new full time equivalent job. In addition to the grant award of \$2,500 the grant will also cover the cost of the recipient's first year of membership in the Yancey County Chamber of Commerce.

For more details on how to apply for the grant program contact Jamie McMahan, Executive Director of the Yancey County Economic Development Commission, at (828) 682-7722 or via email at yanceyedc@gmail.com. Application information may also be obtained at the Yancey County Chamber of Commerce or the Mayland Community College Small Business Center.

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