**Michigan Small Business Development Center**  
**MI-SBDC**  
Open to the public. Counseling, training, market research, technology commercialization assistance. Business resource center. Free or low-cost workshops.  
(810) 762-9660 [sbdcmichigan.org](http://sbdcmichigan.org)  
Kettering University  
1700 University Ave. Campus Center, Room 5-100, Flint, MI 48504

**Mott Community College Regional Tech Center**  
Advanced manufacturing and technology assistance related to design and manufacturing issues. FabLab fast prototyping facilities and assistance.  
(810) 232-4553 [mcc.edu/fablab](http://mcc.edu/fablab)  
1401 E. Court St., Flint, MI 48503

**Oak Business Center**  
Space for rent; multi-use facility for office, retail, commercial, and light industrial.  
(810) 235-5555 [cityofflint.com/OakBC/oakBC.html](http://cityofflint.com/OakBC/oakBC.html)  
2712 N. Saginaw St., Flint, MI 48505

**Red Ink Flint**  
Support for youth entrepreneurs, downtown Flint start-ups, arts-based enterprise.  
(810) 280-1010 [redinkflint.org](http://redinkflint.org)  
432 N. Saginaw St., Suite 207, Flint, MI 48502

**University Outreach Innovation Incubator**  
Co-work space with free Wi-Fi open to the public, assistance with business model and planning, referrals, workshops, mentoring, networking. UM-Flint students may qualify for free office space.  
(810) 424-5428 [go.umflint.edu/IN](http://go.umflint.edu/IN)  
University of Michigan-Flint  
432 N. Saginaw St., Suite 207, Flint, MI 48502

**Veteran’s Business Resource Center**  
Assistance for veterans: Counseling, training, mentoring, advocacy.  
(810) 767-8387 [vetbizcentral.org](http://vetbizcentral.org)  
501 S Averill Ave., Flint, MI 48506

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### Online Resources

- Kauffman Foundation  
  [Entrepreneurship.org](http://Entrepreneurship.org)
- 4 Good  
  [The community for social impact](http://4good.org)
- GOOD magazine  
  [Good.is](http://Good.is)
- Great Lakes Entrepreneur’s Quest  
  [Gleq.org](http://Gleq.org)
- Inc. magazine  
  [Inc.com](http://Inc.com)
- Michigan Quest  
  [Empowering Michigan Entrepreneurs](http://MIQuest.org)
- U.S. Small Business Administration  
  [sba.gov](http://sba.gov)
- Wired magazine  
  [Wired.com](http://Wired.com)
- YES! Magazine  
  [Yesmagazine.org](http://Yesmagazine.org)

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**Start Up Plan** is a guide that showcases numerous organizations to help entrepreneurs build their business or non-profits. The Flint area is fortunate to have agencies that provide services to help you create the next big thing. So let’s get started.

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**KEY**
- 🗣️=research
- 📂=business plan
- 🎨=workshops
- 🏡=office space
- 🎨=product development
- $=funding
- 🔍=networking
- 🔍=marketing
- ✔️=assessment
Walk-in Resources

Automation Alley
A technology business association offering entrepreneurial and export assistance, workforce development and tech acceleration.
(800) 427-5100 automationalley.com

Baker College Center For Business
Assistance for Baker students in accounting, marketing, supervision, management and human resources, advertising, market research, sales and customer service.
(810) 343-1305 baker.edu/campus/flint
1550 W. Bristol Rd., Flint, MI 48507

Genesee County Economic Development Corporation (EDC)
Economic development, gap funding and IDRB.
(810) 600-1440 gc4me.com/business/economic_development.php
519 S. Saginaw St., Suite 200, Flint, MI 48502

Flint & Genesee Chamber of Commerce
Economic development assistance- marketing, site selection, incentives, attraction, retention. Innovation and anchor initiatives development.
(810) 600-1404 Flintandgenesee.org
519 S. Saginaw St., Suite 200, Flint, MI 48502

Flint Area Reinvestment Office
Assisting the public, private and nonprofit sectors in attracting and utilizing federal funding for the Flint area.
(810) 362-8065 reinvestflint.org
503 S. Saginaw St., Suite 1200, Flint, MI 48502-1851

GOODWILL INDUSTRIES

“501Inc.” offers business incubator space for rent to the public. Goodwill provides micro and small business support and assistance for persons with disabilities.
(810) 600-6340 goodwillmidmichigan.org
501 S. Averill Ave., Flint, MI 48506

Inventor’s Council of Mid-Michigan
Nonprofit assisting inventors in bringing new products to market.
(810) 245-5599 inventorscouncil.org
michaelball@turbousa.com

Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Residential and commercial development support.
(810) 233-4299 lisc.org
436 S. Saginaw St., Suite 408, Flint, MI 48502

Metro Community Development
Community lending program and SBA micro lender.
(810) 767-4622 metro-community.org
503 S. Saginaw St., Suite 804, Flint, MI 48502

Obtain Financing
Only after you have completed your business model or plan, and have a track record, it may be time to discuss financing options or seek venture capital. The providers indicated by $ may be able to assist you.

Networking
Never stop sharing your idea for solving a community problem! Keep building your network to get the word out and learn about potential partners in your work. The providers indicated by $ may be able to connect you.

RESEARCH
The next phase is to research opportunities and seek assistance.

Research
In your industry, what is your competition doing? Local resources available to help you research are indicated by

Write Business Model
Taking the information from Step One, write up a plan to guide your business. Local resources available to help you build a plan are indicated by

Workshops, Conferences
Still have questions? You can learn more from local programs that help businesses and nonprofits. These re-source providers are indicated by

Co-work or Office Space
Where will you do business? If you need help, investigate the providers indicated by

Product Development
Where can you prototype your idea? If you need help, investigate the providers indicated by

NOTICE
Complete a Self-assessment before seeking assistance from area resources.

Idea
• What problem are you helping to solve?
• What is your vision and mission?
• Who are your customers and how will you deliver to them?
• How will you make a profit or fund your work?

Name & Location
• Check name availability and register in your county/state.
• Will you need to be licensed?
• Consider potential locations.
• Will you need to check zoning and local requirements?

Your Team
A well-rounded team comprises these skills: sales, bookkeeping, marketing, legal advice, and insurance. You will need to bring these skill sets into your team.

Review: Does the business idea reflect your mission and vision?

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NETWORK & MARKET
The next step is to share your business idea publicly with others.

Networking
Never stop sharing your idea for solving a community problem! Keep building your network to get the word out and learn about potential partners in your work. The providers indicated by $ may be able to connect you.

Marketing
Similar to networking, getting the word out about your business is an ongoing process. The providers indicated by \( \$ \) may help you market your message.

FINAL ASSESSMENT
Finally, give yourself another evaluation to determine if your efforts were fruitful. If not, take this opportunity to form a strategy.

Evaluation
• How will you know if you are successful?
  • Will you know when it is time to scale up?
  • What is your exit strategy?
  The providers indicated by $ may be able to answer these questions.