



MISSION STATEMENT

We strive to bridge the gap between education and the

fostering

innovative thinking, promoting sustainable business practices, and creating pathways to meaningful employment. By supporting diverse groups, including youth, adults, and underrepresented individuals, we aim to inspire the next generation of entrepreneurs and community leaders who will drive positive change and economic growth within their communities.

workforce

VISION STATEMENT

Our mission is to bridge the gap between education and the workforce by fostering innovation, promoting sustainable business practices, and creating accessible pathways to meaningful and fulfilling employment opportunities. We are dedicated to empowering individuals from diverse backgrounds, including youth, adults, and underrepresented populations, by providing the tools, knowledge, and resources they need to succeed.

Through education, mentorship, and hands-on training, we aim to cultivate a spirit of entrepreneurship and leadership. That inspires individuals to envision and achieve their goals. By supporting and nurturing the talents of our participants, we strive to build a stronger, more equitable future where every individual has the opportunity to contribute meaningfully to their community.

Our commitment extends to driving positive social and economic change by creating innovative solutions that address systemic barriers to success. By investing in the potential of individuals and fostering collaboration across communities, we seek to spark economic growth and uplift underserved populations. We strive to inspire a generation of leaders dedicated to building sustainable and thriving communities.

All of our programs are at no cost to our community.

EECI - WHO WE ARE

The Entrepreneur Educational Center Inc. (EECI) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to empowering communities in LMI (Low to Moderate Income) Communities, and surrounding areas in Los Angeles through education, entrepreneurship, and job opportunities. EECI focuses on developing the business talents of over one million residents in their communities, fostering economic growth and self-sufficiency.

EECI is dedicated to empowering individuals and communities through comprehensive education, entrepreneurship, and economic development. Our mission is to cultivate the business talents of underserviced community residents of the 2nd county district and surrounding areas by providing accessible programs, resources, and mentorship.

EECI offers a variety of programs tailored to diverse groups, including youth, adults, and underrepresented individuals, providing them with the tools, resources, and mentorship needed to start and expand small businesses. Through initiatives like the PADI Certified Diving Program, Youth Environmental Field Trips, Miracle's Young Adult Entrepreneur Program, and the Adult Startup and Expansion Business Plan Development Program, EECI strives to cultivate the next generation of entrepreneurs and community leaders. By connecting participants with financial resources, industry professionals, and practical training, EECI bridges the gap between education and the workplace, promoting a culture of innovation and sustainable economic development.

EECI HEADQUARTERS - OUR BUILDING

EECI, the Entrepreneur Educational Center, is prominently located in the heart of Los Angeles' 2nd County District, in the City of Gardena, California. A 7000 square ft. office space with 20 offices and meeting space for special events, conferences, live broadcasts, and entertainment.

Serving 1.5 million people, this facility is home to the Steven Bradford Global Communications
Center. A state-of-the-art facility utilized for press, special commencements, training, team
development, and EECl's ongoing outreach and business development programs.

Through collaboration with industry partners and a
commitment to representation, EECl seeks to
unlock opportunities at this location and
enhance the quality of life for all
community members.

KEY PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

ADULT BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

EECI offers comprehensive training and mentorship programs designed to equip aspiring entrepreneurs with essential skills in business planning, marketing, financial management, and entrepreneurship. Programs like the Adult Startup and Expansion Business Plan Development and the Miracles Young Adult Entrepreneur program focus on practical knowledge and real-world applications.

MIRACLE'S YOUNG ADULT ENTREPRENEUR PROGRAM (MYEAP) (AGES 16 TO 26)

EECI actively engages with local communities through targeted outreach initiatives designed to identify aspiring entrepreneurs and connect them with the tools, knowledge, and resources they need to succeed by working closely with community leaders and schools. Nonprofits and local businesses, EECI ensures its programs are accessible and responsive to the unique needs of each area it serves.

Recognizing the importance of cultivating entrepreneurship early, EECI partners with schools and youth organizations to introduce students to business concepts and entrepreneurial thinking. Through interactive activities and mentorship programs, young adults are inspired to explore careers in business and develop leadership skills.

By combining education, mentorship, and community collaboration, EECI's outreach initiatives not only identify potential entrepreneurs but also empower them to contribute to the economic and social revitalization of their communities.

BUSINESS INCUBATOR INITIATIVES

EECI supports emerging businesses through its comprehensive incubator initiatives designed to empower entrepreneurs with the resources, guidance, and opportunities they need to transform their ideas into thriving enterprises. These programs offer a robust framework for business development, emphasizing hands-on support and long-term growth strategies.

EECI creates a vibrant ecosystem for collaboration and innovation by connecting entrepreneurs with a wide network of industry professionals, mentors, and potential partners. Networking events, pitch sessions, and industry roundtables enable participants to exchange. Ideas gain feedback and establish valuable relationships that can lead to new opportunities. These connections often result in strategic partnerships and collaborations that accelerate business growth.

EECI incubator initiatives offer access to essential resources, including coworking spaces, technology, tools, and equipment. Shared resources reduced overhead costs for emerging businesses, allowing entrepreneurs to allocate their budgets more effectively. Participants also benefit from access to specialized facilities such as prototyping labs or digital media studios, depending on their industry needs.







ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS EDUCATION PROGRAMS

ECCI fosters environmental awareness. And responsibility through its Youth Environmental Field Trips program. This initiative is designed to educate young individuals about conservation, sustainability, and the critical importance of protecting natural resources by combining hands-

on experience with engaging educational content. The program instills a deep appreciation for the environment while empowering participants to become proactive stewards of the planet.

The youth environmental field trips offer participants the opportunity to explore diverse ecosystems, including wetlands, forests, coastal areas, and urban green spaces. Guided by environmental educators and experts, students learn about the delicate balance of these ecosystems and their role in sustaining life. Topics covered include biodiversity, climate change, renewable energy, pollution prevention, and sustainable practices.

By participating in these trips, young individuals are encouraged to think critically about environmental challenges and explore solutions that can be implemented in their communities. The program highlights the interconnectedness of human activity and natural ecosystems, emphasizing. How individual actions can collectively create a positive impact.

OPEN-WATER DIVING, PADI CERTIFICATION COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING

The EECI diving program in Partnership with the Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI), offers the globally recognized PADI Open Water Diving certification. This certification is widely regarded as a Benchmark for safe and effective diving practices PADI's rigorous training standards ensure that participants receive a thorough and high-quality education and diving.

The Open Water Diver course is designed for individuals who are reasonably proficient swimmers and in good health, particularly with robust circulatory and respiratory systems. Participants learn essential diving skills such as proper equipment use, safety protocols, underwater navigation, and buoyancy control. The course also emphasizes environmental awareness, encouraging divers to respect and protect marine ecosystems upon completing the program. Students can dive confidently in a variety of conditions and continue their diving education with advanced courses in areas such as deep diving, underwater photography, and rescue diving.

By making diving accessible to underrepresented communities, the program not only broadens horizons for participants but also opens pathways to careers in the maritime and diving industries. Participants are equipped. To explore roles in marine conservation, underwater research, tourism, and commercial diving, contributing to the diversification of these fields.

INDUSTRY EXPOSURE

The EECI Diving program goes beyond training by immersing participants in the maritime industry. Through strategic partnerships with local businesses, environmental organizations, and industry leaders, the program provides unique opportunities for participants to engage directly with experts in the field.

Workshops and networking events allow participants to learn about the diverse career options available in the maritime sector, such as marine biology, underwater construction and dive instruction, site visits to marine facilities, dive centers, and conservation projects give students a first-hand look at the operations and challenges of the industry.

Additionally, participants gained practical insights into how their skills can be applied to real-world scenarios such as coral reef restoration, underwater archaeology, and ecotourism. These experiences not only inspire participants but also prepare them to navigate and thrive in a competitive and growing industry.



EECI'S SUMMER OF SOUL 2025 FUNDRAISING CONCERT:

A CATALYST FOR COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION

The Summer of Soul Fundraising Concert is a cornerstone initiative of EECI, designed to bridge awareness, foster engagement, and inspire giving in support of programs that transform lives across Los Angeles County's 2nd District.

In 2025, Summer of Soul drew an audience of more than 1,400 residents to the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts, uniting community members with elected officials, city government leaders, and leading financial institutions. This unprecedented gathering demonstrated the power of collaboration and the recognition that EECI's work directly strengthens underserved neighborhoods through education, entrepreneurship, and workforce development.



TESTIMONIALS - IN THEIR WORDS



AltaSea at the Port of Los Angeles

We are so proud at AltaSea of our partnership and deepening relationship with EECI. We really want to build the emerging. Blue economy and all the sectors that will mitigate climate change, with the core value of inclusion, and I am grateful for EECI joining us.



PERSEVERANCE IS THE BRIDGE BETWEEN DREAMS AND ACHIEVEMENT. EVERY STEP FORWARD, NO MATTER HOW SMALL, IS PROOF THAT YOUR GOALS ARE ALREADY WITHIN REACH.



Wallesha Bedford, 32 2024 Business Program Alumni

Confectionery enthusiasts attended the event to learn how she can take her baking business to the next level from her home.

"I would like to start a bakery where I make cakes for a living. I do it on the side for now because I transitioned into another career, but baking cakes is my first passion. I want to have a large clientele".



Tami Mann, CED Regenerative, Recovery & Reentry Services Class of 2016 and 2021

I am beyond grateful for the EECI program. I came to EECI as a person with decades of work experience and a big dream to turn that experience into a business. EECI helped bring that dream into focus. After I graduated, I was offered the opportunity to utilize EECI's business incubator, where I have access to business space, resources, and one-on-one access with collaborators, which has been a tremendous help in mounting and developing my business.

SPONSORS -THE STRENGTH OF OUR SUPPORT











































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"BUILDING OUR COMMUNITIES ONE BUSINESS AT A TIME"

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