

WHERE TO GET MORE HELP

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There are a lot of non-profit, government and for-profit organizations out there that can help you in starting your business venture. The following are some organizations that may be able to assist you:

1. **SCORE Naples.** SCORE Naples provides free business counseling and periodic workshops to business owners and entrepreneurs. All SCORE counselors are volunteers with a wide-variety of real life business experience. www.scorenaples.org. See their Business Resource Library at www.scorenaples.org/library.
2. **National SCORE.** SCORE's national website (www.score.org) also has a wealth of information, tools and links to help you. This site also allows you to find the local SCORE office nearest you or even initiate a cyber counseling session with any of over 1000 business experts nationwide.
3. **Small Business Development Centers (SBDC).** SBDCs are funded in part by the Small Business Administration (SBA) and also work with local colleges and some other funding agencies. Every state has at least one SBDC, and most states have several offices in several cities. SBDCs offer free, high quality professional advice. Find the SBDC office nearest you at www.bplans.com/sb/
4. **Small Business Administration.** The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) was created in 1953 as an independent agency of the federal government to aid, counsel, assist and protect the interests of small business concerns, to preserve free competitive enterprise and to maintain and strengthen the overall economy of our nation. The SBA helps Americans start, build and grow businesses. SCORE is partially funded through the SBA. <http://www.sba.gov/>.
5. **SBRN.** The Small Business Resource Network is a network of service providers and governmental organizations that provide assistance to small businesses. <http://www.sbrn.org/>.
6. **Chamber of Commerce.** Chambers of Commerce generally promote the area's business and professional community through public policy and business advocacy, leadership programs, executive business forums and sessions, and enhanced member benefits and service.
 - **Naples** - www.napleschamber.org
 - **Fort Myers** - www.fortmyers.org
 - **Immokalee** - www.immokaleechamber.org
 - **Cape Coral** - www.capecoralchamber.com
 - **Marco Island** - www.marcoislandchamber.org
 - **Bonita Springs** - www.bonitaspringschamber.org

7. **Florida Women's Business Center.** This organization is dedicated to the individual professional development of women. www.flwbc.org.
8. **Office of Supplier Diversity's (OSD).** The OSD's function is to improve business and economic opportunities for Florida's women-owned and minority-owned businesses. www.osd.dms.state.fl.us.
9. **Woman Owned Business Network.** This network provides information, tools, networking opportunities and advice to help women. www.womanowned.com.
10. **Veterans.** Veterans should review www.veteranscorp.org for resources aimed at helping veteran entrepreneurs.