



# Actionreport

Leading Businesses  
Leading Communities



## Good Morning Metro South Breakfast Will Feature New Brockton Mayor Rodrigues, New Brockton Garner Hotel, and FIFA Boston '26

Thursday, February 12 | 8:45AM - 10:30PM | Garner Hotel | 405 Westgate Drive, Brockton, MA 02301

Join us for breakfast at the newly renovated Garner Hotel in Brockton with SCU Credit Union! The event will feature a special interview with Greta Teller, FIFA World Cup Boston 2026 Director of Community Celebrations, followed by a keynote from Brockton's new Mayor, Moises Rodrigues.

We'll wrap up with a ribbon-cutting to celebrate the grand opening of the former Holiday Inn. Tour the newly refinished facilities and see all the exciting upgrades!

Questions? Contact Hannah at [events@metrosouthchamber.com](mailto:events@metrosouthchamber.com), call (508) 586-0500 x231, visit [metrosouthchamber.com/events](http://metrosouthchamber.com/events) or scan the QR Code to register and learn more. *More info on page 2.*

### Chamber Mission

To best serve the unique interests and needs of member businesses and to champion the broader economic vitality of the Metro South region.



Francina Monteiro, Rockland Federal Credit Union  
Page 6



John Duggam, Meehan School of Business, Stonehill College • Page 6



Senator Rodrigues  
Page 6

### CONTENTS

Calendar of Events	3
Good News	4
New Members	10
Renewing Members	10

## Chamber to Hold 11th Annual Women & Minority Owned Business Panel, Business Resource Fair, After Hours Networking

Thursday, March 5 | 5:00PM - 7:30PM | Thorny Lea Golf Club | 159 Torrey Street, Brockton, MA 02301

Join us Thursday, March 5 from 5-7:30pm for the 11th Annual Multicultural Business Forum & Business After Hours! This triple feature event includes a business resource expo, woman & minority owned business panel, and after hours networking.

This is a great opportunity for potential and existing entrepreneurs to learn about helpful resources, network with local businesses, and hear from entrepreneurs who have successful business stories.

**The Business Resource Expo:** Space is limited and business resource organizations will be prioritized.

Contact Hannah for more information at [events@metrosouthchamber.com](mailto:events@metrosouthchamber.com) or call (508) 586-0500 x231. [All expo participants must be approved, inquire now.] Register to attend this complementary event with the QR code above or visit [metrosouthchamber.com/events](http://metrosouthchamber.com/events). *Learn more on page 5.*

## Downtown Office Space Available For Rent at the Metro South Chamber

60 SCHOOL ST. BROCKTON

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT



MULTIPLE OFFICES AVAILABLE  
CALL CHRIS (508) 586-0500 x223

### Occupant space includes use of:

- Conference rooms for meetings with outside guests, equipped with overhead projectors and TVs for AV needs.
- Access to all training courses, seminars, consulting services, and business resource library available at Metro South Business Assistance Center.
- Hospitality area including refrigerator, microwave, and coffee, tea, and spring water.
- High-Speed Internet ready.
- Access to ample parking close-by and across the street.
- Close proximity to City Hall and downtown shops, services, and organizations.

For more information contact Metro South Chamber President & CEO Chris Cooney, CCE at (508) 586-0500 ext. 223 or email [chris@metrosouthchamber.com](mailto:chris@metrosouthchamber.com)

## Good Morning Metro South Breakfast and Ribbon Cutting: New Brockton Mayor Rodrigues, New Brockton Garner Hotel, and FIFA Boston '26

Thursday, February 12 | 8:45AM - 10:30PM | Garner Hotel | 405 Westgate Drive, Brockton

### Good Morning Metro South

Feb 12 • 8:45AM - 10:30AM  
405 Westgate Drive, Brockton

Breakfast at the newly remodeled and rebranded Garner Hotel in Brockton, featuring new Mayor of Brockton Moises Rodrigues, plus FIFA World Cup Boston 2026 Director of Community Celebrations, Greta Teller



SIGN UP



Garner  
BY IHG

Scan to register!



Stay for the hotel ribbon cutting at the end!



Mayor of Brockton,  
Moises Rodrigues

Moises M. Rodrigues is a respected community leader in Brockton, with over 25 years of experience in public administration, social services, and local activism. He has served as Communications Director for the City of Brockton and was the city's first Black Interim Mayor during a time of emergency transition.

A Cape Verdean immigrant and United States Navy veteran (1983–1989), Moises holds a degree in Human Services and Community Relations from the University of Massachusetts and was elected as a Member of the National Parliament of Cape Verde in 2001.

In 2013, he became the first Cape Verdean elected to the Brockton City Council. Recently, he served as City Councilor-at-Large in Brockton and as Executive Director of the Cape Verdean Association of Brockton. He has also sat on key community boards including

Old Colony YMCA and St. Edith Stein.

With a deep commitment to education, public safety, and social justice, Moises believes in a united, safe Brockton with opportunities for everyone. Taking office in January 2026, Moises Rodrigues is now Brockton's first elected mayor of color.



Greta Teller, Director of  
Community Celebration, FIFA  
World Cup™ Boston 2026

We're excited to welcome Greta Teller, Director of Community Celebration for the FIFA World Cup™ Boston 2026, to this event! Greta will share insights on the regional economic impact of this historic tournament. Massachusetts will host seven matches in June and July 2026, including the Haitian team, whose large and vibrant Brockton community will have a chance to cheer on their national team. This is a unique opportunity to learn how the World Cup will energize the region, celebrate cultural diversity, and create lasting economic opportunities.

Register online at the QR Code above or visit [metrosouthchamber.com](http://metrosouthchamber.com) to save your seats! Limited tickets are available. Questions contact Hannah McGuire at [events@metrosouthchamber.com](mailto:events@metrosouthchamber.com) or call

(508) 586-0500 x231 for assistance.

## Mega Networking Opportunity, All Are Welcome!

Monday, April 13 | 5:00PM - 7:00PM | Plainridge Park Casino | 301 Washington Street, Plainville

Ap. 13  
5-7pm

### MULTI CHAMBER NETWORKING

at Plainridge Park Casino

Tri-Town - United Regional  
Cranberry Country - Walpole  
Taunton Area - Metro South  
Neponset River Regional

Please join us for a night of multi-chamber networking and live harness racing! Monday, April 13th from 5-7pm at Plainridge Park Casino, located at 301 Washington Street in Plainville.

This is an opportunity to expand your network by meeting with neighboring communities to exchange ideas, build relationships, and further advance the regional business economy. To register and learn more, visit [metrosouthchamber.com/events](http://metrosouthchamber.com/events).

## Live Nation After Hours @ Residence Inn Bridgewater

Thursday, April 16 | 5:00PM - 7:00PM | Residence Inn | 2020 Pleasant Street, Bridgewater

LIVE NATION™

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS!

2020 Pleasant Street in Bridgewater

Grow your net worth by expanding your network

Make new connections & refresh existing ones!

Join Us!  
April 16th 5-7PM

Host: Residence Inn Bridgewater

Join us Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup> from 5-7PM for an evening of networking with Live Nation at Residence Inn in Bridgewater! Enjoy refreshments while meeting new contacts in the Metro South community.

FREE TO ATTEND! Just let us know you'll be there. RSVP at the QR code or link below.

More info at: [www.metroouthchamber.com/events](http://www.metroouthchamber.com/events). For assistance email [events@metrosouthchamber.com](mailto:events@metrosouthchamber.com) or call (508) 586-0500 x231.



SIGN UP

Join us for an evening of networking with Live Nation at Residence Inn in Bridgewater! Enjoy refreshments while meeting new contacts in the Metro South community.

Free to attend! To register and learn more, visit [metrosouthchamber.com/events](http://metrosouthchamber.com/events) or scan the QR Code. Questions? Contact Hannah at [events@metrosouthchamber.com](mailto:events@metrosouthchamber.com) or call (508) 586-0500 x231 for assistance.

## Save the Date! "Bridgewater Day" Luncheon 4/30

Thursday, April 30 | 11:45AM - 1:30PM | Olde Scotland Links | 695 Pine Street, Bridgewater



SIGN UP

In April, the Chamber will hold a special Good Day Metro South session highlighting the Town of Bridgewater! Speakers will include Bridgewater officials Bob Rulli, Community & Economic Development Director, and Bridgewater Town Manager, Justin Casanova-Davis; Fred Clark, Bridgewater State University, and more TBA.

Questions? Contact Hannah at [events@metrosouthchamber.com](mailto:events@metrosouthchamber.com) or call (508) 586-0500 x231 for assistance.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS, OFFICERS**

Chair of the Board  
**Dan Evans, Evans Machine Co., Inc.**

Vice Chair Economic Development  
**Fred Clark, Bridgewater State University**

President and CEO  
**Christopher Cooney, CCE, IOM, MPA**  
Metro South Chamber of Commerce

Vice Chair Government Affairs  
**Sue Joss, Consultant**

Chair-Elect  
**George Spilios, Crown Uniform & Linen Service**

Vice Chair Community Affairs  
**Doug Smith, Stonehill College**

Treasurer  
**Gregory Hart, CPA, Summer St Financial Advisors**

Vice Chair Membership Development  
**Mike Lambert, Brockton Area Transit Authority**

Immediate Past Chair  
**Richard Hynes, Barbour Corporation**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Maria Celli - Brockton Neighborhood Health Center**

**Bill Mitchell - Massasoit Community College**

**Matthew Osborne - Eastern Bank**

**Carol Chin - McDonald's**

**Jay Pike, CPA - Citrin Cooperman**

**Todd Copeland - Copeland Auto Group**

**Scott Sanborn - Hometown Financial Group**

**Robert Haffey - Signature Healthcare**

**Rich Spencer - North Easton Savings Bank**

**Kelly Mallory - Mallory Headsets, Inc.**

**Andrew St. Pierre - Brockton Plumbing & Heating Supply**

**Jeni Mather - JM Pet Resort**

**CHAMBER STAFF**

**(508) 586-0500 Front Desk x 221**

**Christopher Cooney, CCE, IOM, MPA**  
President and CEO x 223

**Development & Retention - NOW HIRING!**  
Membership x 229

**Emma Penardi, IOM**  
VP of Communications & Special Projects x 222

Finance x 230

**Hannah McGuire**  
Programs & Events Coordinator x 231

*Newsletter Written & Designed by Emma Penardi.  
Printing Provided by The Enterprise.*

Calendar Sponsor  
**SPACE AVAILABLE**

**CHAMBER Calendar**

**THE GREATER BROCKTON**  
**Community Navigator** POWERED BY SBA

*Networking at events is one of the most effective ways to grow your business!*

**February**

**04** **Ambassador Meeting** 9:00AM  
*Virtual Meeting via Zoom*

**12** **Good Morning Metro South: New Mayor, New Hotel, FIFA** 8:45AM  
*Garner Hotel: 405 Westgate Drive, Brockton*

**March**

**04** **Ambassador Meeting** 9:00AM  
*Virtual Meeting via Zoom*

**05** **11th Annual Multicultural Panel & BAH** 5:00PM  
*Thorny Lea Golf Club: 159 Torrey Street, Brockton*

**25** **Board of Directors Meeting** 12:30PM  
*Virtual Meeting via Zoom*

**April**

**08** **Ambassador Meeting** 9:00AM  
*Virtual Meeting via Zoom*

**13** **Multi-Chamber Mega Networking** 5:00PM  
*Plainridge Park Casino: 301 Washington Street, Plainville*

**16** **Business After Hours: Live Nation** 5:00PM  
*2020 Pleasant Street, Bridgewater*

**Impact.**

It takes the right tools to start or grow a business. And it takes customers to keep business growing.

The Metro South Chamber of Commerce builds strong businesses and communities by connecting you to new customers and suppliers, as well as to those who influence the local economy and quality of life.

Access to the right tools. One more way the Chamber makes an impact.

**To join the chamber call 508.586.0500 or visit [www.metroouthchamber.com](http://www.metroouthchamber.com)**



**METRO SOUTH** *Leading Businesses.*  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE *Leading Communities.*

Note: All meetings are held at the Metro South Chamber Office (via Zoom) or Metro South Business Assistance Center (BAC), Sixty School Street, Brockton unless otherwise indicated.



**ACCREDITED**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**CHAMBER MISSION:** To best serve the unique interests and needs of member businesses and to champion the broader vitality of the Metro South region.

**Metro South Chamber of Commerce**  
Sixty School Street, Brockton, MA 02301-4087  
tel: (508) 586-0500  
info@metrosouthchamber.com  
www.metroouthchamber.com

**ACTION Report** **Volume 26 - Issue 2**  
(USPS-410630) is published monthly except for combined July/August for \$5.00 per year by the Metro South Chamber of Commerce, Sixty School Street, Brockton, MA 02301-4087. Periodical Postage Paid at Brockton, MA.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Action Report, Sixty School Street, Brockton, MA 02301-4087

The Metro South Chamber of Commerce is solely responsible for the editorial content of this publication.

The Chamber wishes to assure our members of our intention to provide universal access to all programs. If you or your employees require assistance in this area, please let us know by calling the Chamber at (508) 586-0500 at least 48 hours in advance.

# UP-TO-DATE News

Members - send Good News to  
estratton@metrosouthchamber.com

Sponsored by: Boston Medical Center - South

## MSBDC Online Training Calendar - visit [msbdc.org/training](http://msbdc.org/training) to register

- 2/3: Financials 101
- 2/4: Tech Talks: Beyond Passwords - Untangling the Security Alphabet Soup
- 2/10: Small Business Taxes - Part 2
- 2/11: Borrowing Basics for Startups
- 2/17: Understanding the Business Loan Process
- 2/18: Retirement Planning for Small Business Owners
- 2/24: AI for Small Business: Legal Risks and Ethical IP Guardrails
- 2/26: Are You Bankable?
- 2/26-27: Export Expo
- 3/10: Intellectual Property Fundamentals: Trademark, Copyright, and Trade Secret
- 3/18: Developing an Effective Government Focused Capability Statement

## Bluestone Charitable Foundation Invests Over \$61,000 to Combat Regional Food Insecurity

Supporting 14 food pantries across southeastern Massachusetts including Bridgewater Food Pantry, Hanson Food Pantry, St. Vincent de Paul East Bridgewater Food Pantry, and West Bridgewater Food Pantry. "This initiative supports the Bluestone Charitable Foundation's mission to foster community

resilience and address fundamental needs, while strengthening our community," commented Bluestone Board Member Bill Clay of Walker-Clay, Inc.



## Dan Rodricks, Award-Winning Journalist, Returns to Native East Bridgewater to Perform One-Man Play "Wicked Good: A South Shore Anthology"

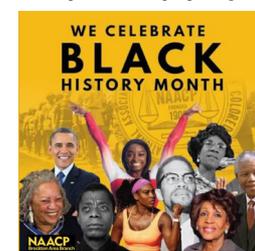
Wicked Good: A South Shore Anthology comes to East Bridgewater this April as a one-night-only performance supporting the Anne Kenneally Hynes Memorial

Scholarship. Since 2014, the AKHMS Committee has awarded over \$76,000 in scholarships to qualifying East Bridgewater graduating seniors as a way to honor and remember Anne Kenneally Hynes, former longtime EBHS librarian and friend to countless students and residents. The show features humorous and poignant South Shore stories told through monologues, with music and projected imagery. Three times a week for 46 consecutive years, Dan Rodricks wrote for the longest-running local column in the U.S. before retiring last year. Held at the Judith A. Riordan Performing Arts Center. Tickets are on sale now through Eventbrite. [tinyurl.com/2hbk7hyr](https://tinyurl.com/2hbk7hyr)

"Art and Spiritualism" by Brockton artist Fritz Ducheine at Enso Art Gallery Starting February 7 Gallery visitation available by appointment, artist reception March 7th from 5-7PM at 86 Centre Street in Brockton. Contact Jamaal Eversley [jamaal@brocktonarts.org](mailto:jamaal@brocktonarts.org) to learn more.

## Brockton Area NAACP Celebrates Black History Month's 100 Year Anniversary with Daily Spotlights

Follow along on Facebook, each day will feature one important figure, achievement, or moment in Black history.



# Health Care Matters

Boston Medical Center - South

235 North Pearl Street, Brockton, MA 02301

508-427-3000

[www.bmchealthsystem.org/bmc-south](http://www.bmchealthsystem.org/bmc-south)

## Boston Medical Center Health System Unveils New Names for Good Samaritan and St. Elizabeth's Medical Centers

The shared brand identity will help patients easily recognize and access trusted, clinically excellent care across BMC Health System hospitals.

Boston Medical Center Health System is proud to announce the renaming of two of its hospitals, as the system advances its vision of high-quality, accessible, and sustainable healthcare in the region.

Good Samaritan Medical Center in Brockton is now Boston Medical Center

– South (BMC South) and St. Elizabeth's Medical Center in Brighton is now Boston Medical Center – Brighton (BMC Brighton). St. Elizabeth's and Good Samaritan's associated offsite physician practices will transition to BMC Health.

"Our vision for a unified health system, rooted in expert care and access for our communities, is steadily taking shape," said Alastair Bell, MD, MBA, President & CEO of BMC Health System. "We are creating a shared identity across all of our hospitals that stands for clinical excellence, trust, accessibility, and compassionate patient care."

Consistent branding across BMC Health

System hospitals ensures patients know they will receive high-quality, equity-led care. BMC Health System gathered input from patients, employees, and community members to help shape the new names.

"We're honored to work alongside our system hospitals who are also devoted to mission-driven care. Bringing our hospitals under one brand sends a strong signal about that shared commitment," said Paul C. Smith, President of BMC Brighton. "We look forward to building on our more than 100-year legacy in Brighton as the foundation of an even brighter future."

"Today is a proud day for our hospital as we take this next integration step into BMC Health System," said Matthew Hesketh, President of BMC South. "We are incredibly proud of our long history in Brockton and look forward to expanding patient care access to more than 20 other communities along the Route 24 corridor."

Over the next weeks and months, the new names and logos will be incorporated into digital and physical touch points across BMC Brighton, BMC South, and associated BMC Health practice locations.

BMC Health System assumed operations of the two hospitals on October 1, 2024.

BOSTON MEDICAL CENTER South

# Women & Minority Owned Business Panel, Resource Fair + After Hours Networking (Continued)

Thursday, March 5 | 5:00PM - 7:30PM | Thorny Lea Golf Club | 159 Torrey Street, Brockton



Premier Sponsor:



SIGN UP

## ABOUT THE PANELISTS



As someone who used to be afraid of going to the dentist as a child, **Dr. Sahar** knows the trust that patients put in the hands of their doctor every time they sit in the dental chair. She takes pride in making her patients feel as comfortable as possible during every appointment and is dedicated to making each dental visit a positive experience.

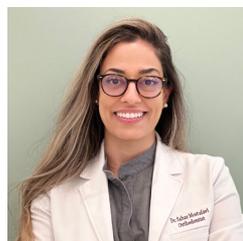
Dr. Sahar received her Doctor of Dental Medicine degree from Tufts University in 2017. She then completed a General Practice Residency at Brown University/Rhode Island Hospital where she had the privilege of treating special needs and medically complex patients. She obtained her specialty certificate in Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics at St. Barnabas Hospital in Bronx, NY before returning to her home state of Massachusetts. Dr. Sahar is an Assistant Professor of Orthodontics at Tufts University School of Dental Medicine and serves as one of the orthodontists on the Craniofacial-Cleft Lip and Palate Team at Tufts Medical Center. She is a diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics. Visit [sharonorthodontics.com](http://sharonorthodontics.com) to learn more.

**Claudie Philemond** is a dedicated early childhood education leader and the Director of Nath Academy Learning Center, a trusted Brockton-area childcare and learning provider committed to nurturing the whole child through inclusive, high-quality early education. With over 25 years of experience working with children, Claudie brings deep expertise in child development, compassionate leadership, and a passion for fostering growth, creativity, and confidence in every learner.

Under her leadership, Nath Academy has become known for its warm, respectful, and child-centered approach—creating safe and engaging environments where children can explore, learn, and thrive. Claudie's commitment to diversity, equity, and community partnership helped guide the recent expansion of Nath Academy's facility on Quincy Avenue in Brockton, enhancing access to quality early education for more families in the Metro South region.

In recognition of her impact on the local economy and community, Nath Academy Learning Center was honored as an Economic Impact Award recipient by the Metro South Chamber of Commerce, celebrating the center's significant investment in educational space, job creation, and support for working families.

Claudie remains deeply involved in the Brockton community and continues to champion early learning excellence, advocacy for children and



Dr. Sahar Mostafavi  
Sharon Orthodontics



Claudie Philemond, Nath  
Academy Learning Center



families, and collaborative partnerships that strengthen both education and economic growth. Visit [nathlearningcenter.com](http://nathlearningcenter.com) to learn more.

**Jacquelyn Rose** is a co-founder, publisher, and social entrepreneur dedicated to strengthening communities through positive local news and civic engagement. As the driving force behind Buzz Around, Inc., she empowers residents to connect, participate, and celebrate what's happening in their communities.

Since founding Buzz Around in 2009, Jacquelyn has expanded its reach across New England, producing thousands of posts annually and promoting more than 75 civic, nonprofit, and community organizations. She has built a loyal audience of tens of thousands of subscribers and fosters strong partnerships with local businesses, municipalities, and nonprofits.

Her work is informed by a diverse background as an entrepreneur, mother, special needs parent, elder advocate, volunteer, and student of human communication. Jacquelyn also leads a robust internship program, mentoring dozens of college students each year from institutions including Brown University, Boston College, Bridgewater State University, and UMass Dartmouth.

Jacquelyn holds an M.A. in Theology with a concentration in Interfaith Leadership and Communication, a BA in English/Communication Arts, and multiple professional certifications. She values collaboration, storytelling, and community action, and enjoys creative pursuits, gardening, and time with her family and her dog, Lilly. Visit [buzzaround.info](http://buzzaround.info) to learn more.



Jaquelyn Rose, BuzzAround



## ABOUT OUR PREMIER SPONSOR - SCU CREDIT UNION



SCU Credit Union (Sharon & Crescent United Credit Union) was formed in 2020 through the merger of Sharon Credit Union and Crescent Credit Union. Both credit unions were founded by individuals who relied on each other, invested in a cooperative endeavor, and, in doing so, invested in each other's future. Today, we remain member-owned and dedicated to improving our members' financial well-being by offering better rates, lower fees, and personalized service.

**Mission:** Positively impact the financial well-being of our members by providing access to a wide range of products and services; to support the diverse communities we serve through education and collaboration; and to foster a rewarding environment for our employees.

**Core Values:** We put our members at the heart of everything we do and strive to exceed their expectations by providing - Service, Integrity, Accountability, Collaboration, and Excellence.

As a member of SCU Credit Union, you can take advantage of our full range of deposit accounts, loans, and related services featuring highly competitive rates. We are a leading provider of home and auto financing throughout our service area. We offer the latest technology, which allows you access to your accounts from your home, office or on the go. All our services are provided by a highly experienced and friendly staff that welcomes the opportunity to serve you. SCU Credit Union was incorporated in 1956 and operates under the supervision of the State Banking Commissioner. Deposits are federally insured up to \$250,000 by the National Credit Union Association (NCUA), an agency of the U.S. Federal Government. The shares and deposits of the Credit Union in excess of NCUA limits are fully insured by the Massachusetts Credit Union Share Insurance Corporation (MSIC).

# Human Resources Panel, Meehan Business School, Senate Ways & Means Chair Rodrigues Featured at January Chamber Luncheon at Stonehill College with Rockland Federal Credit Union



Program Sponsor:



Host Sponsor:



PC: Rich Morgan Photography

Program Sponsor, Francia Monteiro, Rockland Federal Credit Union; Panelists Mary Baker, HR Alternatives, Allison Amador, TriNet, and Stephanie Messina Sewade, LukeJackson Benefit and HR Solutions; Chamber Treasurer Greg Hart, Summer St Financial; Senator Mike Brady; John Duggan, Meehan School of Business Dean, and Chamber Director Doug Smith, Stonehill College; and Chris Cooney, Metro South Chamber President.

Rockland Federal Credit Union joined the Metro South Chamber in kicking off the new year with an informative HR panel at Stonehill College's Meehan School of Business. The program brought together business leaders and regional specialists for a timely conversation on workforce, legal, and policy developments affecting employers.

Panelists addressed the topics most front-of-mind for employers heading into 2026, including shifting HR priorities, evolving regulatory requirements, and practical compliance best practices. Discussion covered start-of-year HR planning, policy updates, and audit readiness; strategies for building competitive, cost-conscious benefits packages amid rising health insurance premiums; and newer options such as ICHRA (Individual Coverage Health Reimbursement Arrangements). Experts also outlined employer risk areas and common pitfalls, with focused insight on FMLA challenges, managing a multi-generational workforce, and strengthening data privacy and workplace protections.

Attendees also heard from Senate Ways and Means Committee Chair Michael J. Rodrigues, who provided a legislative and economic outlook for Massachusetts, offering perspective on state budget priorities and broader trends influencing the employer landscape.

The program included interactive audience Q&A, allowing participants to raise real-world scenarios and receive expert feedback. The event concluded with networking, where guests connected with fellow business and community leaders and continued the conversation around HR strategy and compliance in the year ahead.

Rockland Federal Credit Union was recognized for its continued partnership and commitment to supporting the regional business community through educational programming and employer resources. The Chamber also thanks Stonehill College for hosting and providing a collaborative setting for learning and connection. Additional photos, video, and resources are available on [metrosouthchamber.com](http://metrosouthchamber.com). Scan the QR Code to access the blog post, or visit [metrosouthchamber.com/blog](http://metrosouthchamber.com/blog).



Leo Meehan School of Business at Stonehill College hosted us!



John Duggan, Dean of the Meehan School of Business, Stonehill College.



Peter Langton, Prof of Data Analytics, Talent, and HR, Stonehill College.



Mary Ellen Baker, HR Alternatives.



Allison Amador, TriNet.



Stephanie Messina Sewade, LukeJackson Benefit and HR Solutions.



Michael Maccaro, Murphy Hesse Toomey & Lehane LLP.



Senator Michael Rodrigues, Chair of the Ways and Means Committee.



Francia Monteiro, Rockland Federal Credit Union.



Anne Beauregard; Mary Waldron, Old Colony Planning Council.



Peter Langton, Stonehill College with student organizers.



Jason Hunter, MassHire Greater Brockton and Chris Cooney, MSCC.



Andrea Simoes and Reiko McNeil, Bluestone Bank; Katherine Light, Eastern Bank.



Walter Medina, Hanscom Federal Credit; John Nesti, MassHire; Felicit Sepulveda, Cape Verdean Association.



Jane Callahan, HR Alternatives and Lew Victor, Brockton Rotary Club.



Carolyn Ross, HR Alternatives; Sidonia Silva Reyes and Sue Murray, SEED Corp; Jennifer Menard, MOBD.



Meaghan Rooney, RFCU; Stephanie Messina Sewade, LukeJackson; Allison Amador and MaryJo Lawless, TriNet.



Hannah McGuire and Emma Penardi, Metro South Chamber of Commerce.

# Updated Information Boards, Coming Soon!

BROCKTON

## WHERE BETTER BEGINS.

Nowhere south of Boston is there such a concentration of history, architecture, recreation, culture, food, and FUN. Enjoy exceptional shopping, museums, dining, boating, skiing, and more! Metro South Chamber of Commerce/Chamber of Commerce, located among early 20th-century renovations inside Brockton's City Hall, is proud to present to you!

The Brockton Information Boards (BIBs) feature local attractions such as the Fuller Craft Museum, Campanelli Stadium, Brockton Historical Society and History Trail, Fairgrounds, City Hall Plaza, and important monuments within the city. At the center of the boards is a map of Brockton containing major routes, transportation services, schools, and train stations. New updated boards are scheduled to be installed this spring.

### BOARD LOCATIONS

**\*2 NEW BOARDS ADDED!**



**NEW!**  
BAT Bus Stop at Westgate Mall  
near Market Basket  
200 Westgate Drive



**NEW!**  
Campanelli Stadium  
Home of the Brockton Rox &  
New England Knockouts



Brockton Historical Society  
216 North Pearl Street/Route 27



Metro South Chamber & City Hall  
School Street



Fuller Craft Museum  
455 Oak Street



Downtown Parking Garage  
Corner of Main & Crescent Street



BAT Intermodal Centre (2 Boards),  
Corner of Commercial  
& Centre Street



Downtown Commuter Rail,  
Commercial Street,  
Police Station

The BIBs were created to provide an appealing and practical way to assist people in their navigation of Brockton while showcasing local businesses, promoting tourism, and helping current residents realize the "hidden gems".

The BIBs support the revitalization of the "City of Champions" by promoting area businesses and locales, thereby retaining dollars and fostering growth in Brockton.

All participating sponsors are highlighted with a photo/logo, contact information, and description of the business. Sponsor spaces are displayed on each of the 9 boards across 8 locations. (See locations on left)

With increased visitors in Downtown Brockton due to recent and continuing developments such as the Enterprise Block, and City Hall Plaza, the Boards are sure to receive increased attention.

Those interested in participating in this exposure opportunity should contact Emma Penardi at estratton@metrosouthchamber.com or call (508) 586-0500 x222 for assistance. Space is very limited, only a few slots are available at this time.

# Abington Bank Renamed "TruNorth Bank"

## Abington Bank is getting a new name!

Our name is changing to **TruNorth Bank™** on February 9.

Visit [NorthShore-Bank.com/TruNorthBank](http://NorthShore-Bank.com/TruNorthBank) for more info.

Member FDIC | Member DIF

Unlock your potential.

We've been proud to serve you as North Shore Bank and Abington Bank, and now, as TruNorth Bank, we're bringing together that legacy with a renewed focus on helping you unlock your potential.

While our name is changing, our dedication to you remains steadfast. Expect the same friendly faces, personalized financial services, and deep community roots that you've come to trust. The official name change will take effect on February 9, 2026.

## 5 Benefits of Joining Your Local Chamber of Commerce

1. It helps you make business contacts
2. It increases your credibility
3. It increases your visibility
4. It provides key business resources
5. It supports your professional development



Learn how to maximize your chamber membership

# The point is not saying everything, but everything that matters.

## USA TODAY

| To the point

## Commonly Overlooked Small Business Tax Credits



U.S. Chamber of Commerce



SCAN TO LEARN MORE

For many small businesses, managing taxes can be confusing—especially at a time when rising costs and tighter margins make every dollar count. As a result, many small business owners overlook valuable credits that could provide them with significant financial relief. Below, we break down several commonly missed credits that may help reduce your tax burden this year.

### What's the difference between a tax credit and a tax deduction?

A tax deduction is an amount you can subtract from your income, reducing how much of it is subject to tax—and, in some cases, lowering your tax bracket. A tax credit is more straightforward, as it reduces the amount of tax owed by giving you a dollar-for-dollar reduction in your liability. For instance, a \$500 tax credit will lower your bill by \$500. Too often, business owners focus exclusively on deductions and overlook equally valuable credits. However, when your business meets the eligibility criteria, both can provide substantial tax savings. *Make sure your small business takes advantage of these often-missed tax credits that may apply to you.*

### Tax credits commonly missed by small businesses:

- Work Opportunity Tax Credit
- R&D tax credit
- SECURE 2.0 Act
- Small Business Health Care Tax Credit
- Employer Credit for Paid Family and Medical Leave
- New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC)
- Empowerment Zone Employment Credit
- General Business Credit

To explore these commonly missed tax credits to see if there are opportunities to lower the tax burden at your small business, scan the QR Code above or visit [uschamber.com/co/run/finance/small-business-tax-credits](http://uschamber.com/co/run/finance/small-business-tax-credits).

## Is SDO Certification Right For Your Business?



SCAN TO LEARN MORE

The goal of the Supplier Diversity Office (SDO) is to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion in state contracting. To that end, the SDO certifies diverse and Massachusetts-based small businesses.

The SDO offers certification for businesses (including non-profit) owned and operated by diverse business categories such as minorities (MBE), women (WBE), Portuguese (PBE), and veterans (VBE). The SDO also has agreements with third-party organizations that certify these categories and others, such as businesses owned by service-disabled veterans (SDVOBE), members of the LGBT community (LGBTBE), and those with a disability (DOBE). The SDO also certifies small businesses headquartered in Massachusetts.

SDO certification is free and can provide businesses with new opportunities and prospects. In FY2024, the Commonwealth spent \$3.78 billion with diverse and small businesses!

Certification through the SDO has many benefits. Certified businesses receive updates on upcoming government contracts, have access to hours of free training, and they are added to the SDO's business directory, which is used by Prime Contractors and state departments looking to spend with diverse and small businesses.

SDO has adjusted procedures to enable businesses to start the certification process on their own schedule. To become certified by the SDO, you can take the following steps: Check if your business is eligible for certification by taking a quick certification self-assessment; Set up an account in the SDO portal; View the informative webcast. The webcast is pre-recorded so you can view it on your own schedule; Apply for certification. Gather your documentation and submit your application; If you are a small business based in Massachusetts, you can renew or start participation in the Small Business Purchasing Program (SBPP); Register your business in COMMBUYS ([www.commbuys.com](http://www.commbuys.com)). This signs you up for alerts to new bids.

For any questions, please contact [sdp@mass.gov](mailto:sdp@mass.gov), check out their website at [mass.gov/sdo](http://mass.gov/sdo), or scan the QR Code above.

## State Treasurer's Office of Economic Empowerment Offers Worth & Wealth Seminars in English & en Español

Worth & Wealth



**Tax Time Without Stress: Filing Basics & Tax Credits Explained - March 4, 2026 at 12:00 pm.** Learn how to prepare for filing your taxes efficiently and understand the available tax credits that can save you money. This workshop will provide practical tools to simplify the process and maximize your benefits. Make your taxes work in your favor!

**Nuestras Historias con el Dinero y su Impacto en Nuestras Relaciones - 11 de febrero de 2026 a las 12 pm.** El dinero no se trata solo de números—también es sobre experiencias, creencias y emociones. En este seminario, exploraremos cómo se forman nuestras historias con el dinero, cómo influyen en nuestras relaciones y cómo podemos crear metas financieras compartidas con las personas que más nos importan.

Al final de este seminario, aprenderá a:

- Identificar su historia personal con el dinero y comprender cómo influye en sus decisiones financieras
- Reconocer cómo diferentes creencias sobre el dinero pueden generar conflictos o fortalecer relaciones
- Practicar herramientas para tener conversaciones abiertas y saludables sobre el dinero con su pareja o seres queridos.

**Temporada de impuestos sin estrés: cómo declarar y entender los créditos fiscales - 11 de marzo de 2026 a las 12 pm.** Aprenda cómo prepararse para presentar sus impuestos de manera eficiente y comprenda los créditos fiscales disponibles que pueden ayudarle a ahorrar dinero. Este taller le brindará herramientas prácticas para simplificar el proceso y maximizar sus beneficios. ¡Haga que sus impuestos trabajen a su favor!

### How Our Money Stories Influence Our Relationships - February 4, 2026 at 12:00 pm

- Learn how your money script (or money personality) is formed, and how it can influence your relationships. Then, learn how to create shared financial goals with the people you care about. By the end of this webinar, you will:
- Identify your personal money script and understand how it affects your financial decisions
- Recognize how different money stories can create tension or harmony in relationships

Practice tools for open, healthy financial communication with a partner or loved one

## Connect with the Workforce via Job & Internship Fairs



**Tuesday, February 24 | 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm**  
**19 Park Avenue, Bridgewater, MA 02325**

The Summer Internship Fair is a great way for employers and students to meet and discuss summer internship opportunities as well as summer part-time job opportunities that are available in the region. Over 45 employers expected to table. This event is invite only. Please contact Tracey Gray at tgray@bridgew.edu if you are interested in attending as an employer.



**Thursday, April 2 | 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm**  
**325 Plymouth Street, Bridgewater, MA 02325**

The MEGA Job & Internship Fair is a great way for employers to meet a large number of potential candidates looking for full-time, professional-level positions as well as internships. The Career Services & Internships Office provides a comprehensive marketing effort for the event so that employers can expect to see hundreds of candidates. This event is open to all Bridgewater State University students, alumni, and the community providing over 120 employers with the opportunity to meet with 500+ candidates from a variety of majors at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Employers attending must have open/anticipated full-time, degree required jobs, and/or academic internships. This event is invite only. Please contact David Kelly Truong at d1truong@bridgew.edu if you are interested in attending as an employer.

**INSPIRE STUDENTS AT CAREER DAY!**

**29th Annual CAP Career Day**  
**APRIL 9**  
 REPRESENT YOUR INDUSTRY & ORG

**8th Annual Construction Career Day**  
**MAY 15**

**SAVE THE DATE: 4/9/2026**  
 Help shape the future of your workforce! Your company is invited to participate at one or both of these events at no cost. Reach out today to reserve your spot.  
 Contact John Nesti at 508-584-9800 x26 or jnesti@masshiregbwb.org

**SAVE THE DATE: 5/15/2026**  
 Interactive outdoor expo showcasing careers in construction, engineering, skilled trades, IT, utilities, security, transit, clean energy & more!

**Thursday, April 9th - 29th Annual CAP Career Day.** Help shape the future of your workforce! Your company is invited to participate at one or both of these events at no cost. Reach out today to reserve your spot (jnesti@masshiregbwb.org) All occupations highlighted at this career expo; healthcare, finance, IT, manufacturing, culinary, hospitality, sales, retail, clean energy & more!

**Friday, May 15 - 8th Annual Construction Career Day.** Interactive outdoor event showcasing careers in construction/engineering/skilled trades, IT, utilities, security, transit, clean energy & more!

## ATHENA Award - Honoring & Empowering Women Leaders: Call for Nominations

This June, the Metro South Chamber of Commerce will present the 28th Annual ATHENA Award to an exceptional individual who has achieved excellence in their business or profession, has served the community in a meaningful way, and has assisted women in reaching their full leadership potential.

The ATHENA Awards Program was created in 1982 and has expanded to over 500 cities in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, the United Arab Emirates, Russia, and China. The Metro South Chamber of Commerce believes in the values underlying the ATHENA Foundation's philosophy of incorporating the talents and expertise of women into the leadership of our

businesses, communities, and government.

To nominate an individual for an ATHENA Award, or for more information please contact Hannah McGuire at (508) 586-0500 x 231 or email events@metrosouthchamber.com. Nominations are due to the Chamber by May 1, 2026.

### Prior ATHENA Recipients

2025 Jeni Mather, JM Pet Resort  
 2024 Beverly Williams, BAMS  
 2023 Barbara Arena, Granite State Econ. Dev.  
 2022 Phyllis Ellis, Brockton Area NAACP  
 2021 Sheila Sullivan-Jardim, MassHire GBWB  
 2020 Nancy B. Gustafson, The Charity Guild  
 2019 Sharon Wolder, Brockton Public Schools

## Call for 2026 Small Biz Award Nominations



The Metro South Chamber recognizes the achievements and contributions of small businesses and entrepreneurs in creating new jobs and economic opportunities in the Metro South region. We welcome you to nominate businesses for the **2026 Small Business of the Year and Entrepreneur of the Year awards.**

You may nominate your own business or any other business you deem worthy. For nomination forms, call Hannah at (508) 586-0500 x 231 or email events@metrosouthchamber.com. You may include any additional documentation that will help illustrate why the business is deserving of the award. Nominees do not need to be members of the Chamber.

**Small Business of the Year Criteria:**  
 50 or less full-time employees (or equivalent); in business more than 3 consecutive years under the current ownership; for-profit business.

**Entrepreneur of the Year Criteria:**  
 10 or less full-time employees (or equivalent); in business less than 3 years; a for-profit business.

Companies will be rated on their creativity and imagination in the development of their business, demonstration of growth, and a reflection on internal and external social responsibility.

Nominations are due to the Chamber by April 1, 2026. Recipients will be announced at the Small Business and Entrepreneur Lunch in May.

### Prior Small Business of the Year Recipients

2025 Dr. Ellie Paris Social Bookstore & Ice Cream Cafe  
 2024 Medella Dental  
 2023 Healthier You Wellness Partners  
 2022 New England Tortilla / Mi Niña  
 2021 Mallory Headsets, Inc.  
 2020 South Shore SoftWash, LLC  
 2019 Immerse Agency  
 2018 Just Desserts Bakery & Cafe  
 2017 Wood Palace Kitchens  
 2016 Strange Planet Printing  
 2015 Maguire's Bar & Grill  
 2014 JM Pet Resort  
 2013 Solex Payroll Systems, Inc.  
 2012 Vicente's Tropical Grocery

### Prior Entrepreneur of the Year Recipients

2025 REnVisioning Technology (REV-T)  
 2024 BinStar  
 2023 Brockton Beer Company  
 2022 Grand Flourish Collective  
 2021 Fusion Dolls  
 2020 Empower Nutrition  
 2019 LAUNCH Web Marketing  
 2018 Shovel Town Brewery  
 2017 Epicure Wine & Jazz Bar  
 2016 Elvera's Cafe  
 2015 The Sound Lab  
 2014 JJ's Caffe  
 2013 Sky8 Shrimp Farm, LLC  
 2012 Sparky's Import Repair

"We develop, support and honor women leaders from the classroom to the boardroom."



**ATHENA**  
 INTERNATIONAL



## RENEWING Members!

### Thank you!

Boys and Girls Club of Brockton, Inc.  
Bridgewater Trophy  
Business Development Strategies, Inc.  
Chin Management/McDonald's  
ConvenientMD, LLC  
Eastern Bank  
Energy Conservation, Inc.  
Etienne Consulting  
Gary R. Oman, CPA, PFS, MST  
U.S. Wealth Management  
George Washington Toma  
GleeWorks Holistic Coaching  
Grant's Rental  
Harbor Health Elder Service Plan

M. Donahue Associates, Inc.  
Manny's Night & Day Cleaning Service  
Medella Dental, PLLC  
PB Mansfield LLC  
Philadelphia Insurance Companies  
South Shore Bank  
Thorny Lea Golf Club  
TRACEY Environmental  
Viking Sheet Metal, Inc.  
William M. Callahan Realty Group/  
Keller Williams Realty  
Willwork Inc., Exhibit & Event Service  
Wright Technology Group

## WELCOME New Members!

### Reinvesting in Our Community

#### Behavioral Health Network

Kathy Mague  
417 Liberty Street  
Springfield, MA 01104  
(413) 297-9608  
www.bhninc.org  
*Mental Health Clinic*

## YOUR BUSINESS PROFILE HERE!

Join the Chamber for  
business exposure, connections,  
advocacy, and more.

To promote your business and support your community,  
contact New Member Services  
(508) 586-0500 x 229 • membership@metrosouthchamber.com

## Join the Chamber Now, \$1,000 in Incentives



Becoming a member of the Metro South Chamber of Commerce provides your business opportunities to accelerate its growth. When you join the Chamber, you become a leader within the business community and a member of the region's most dynamic advocacy organization. Membership means potential new business prospects, new savings, access to valuable resources and information, a variety of marketing opportunities, and more, for you and your business. Chamber membership is affordable no matter how small your business, and it provides your business with tremendous opportunity.

**Join to Receive OVER \$1,000 IN PROMOTIONAL BENEFITS**

**FREE** Member Profile in Action Report newsletter, distributed through *The Enterprise*  
**2 FREE** Listings in the next Guide to the Metro South Region  
**FREE** Chamber Business List in Excel or mailing labels, \$150 value  
**FREE** Enhanced member listing on the Chamber website with link to website  
**FREE** access to members-only page of website to post discounts, events, and more  
**FREE** membership sticker and virtual badge for your website.  
For more info or to set up an appointment call (508) 586-0500 x 229 or email chris@metrosouthchamber.com.

## Own A Small Biz? Thinking of Starting One? Call SCORE!



To succeed, you have to stay ahead of the competition; whether you're looking for a business direction sheet or working to tap into value creation, connect with a SCORE mentor to help you! If you're just starting a business, SCORE mentors can provide the practical action plan, education and tools you need to open your doors and establish a customer base.

Take advantage of their live webinar series! Learn more by visiting [www.score.org](http://www.score.org), [www.sema.score.org](http://www.sema.score.org), [www.boston.score.org](http://www.boston.score.org), or by calling (508) 587-2673. Ahead for the month and beyond...

**February 3:** *Google Workspace Business Setup: Tools to Use and Mistakes to Avoid*

**February 5:** *How to Use AI to Promote Your Business*

**February 5:** *How OB3 Impacts Your Taxes: Protect Your Business & Maximize Deductions*

**February 7:** *Marketing Your Business in The Digital World Workshop*

**February 10:** *Bookkeeping for Small Nonprofits*

**February 10:** *Your SEO Roadmap: How to Get Your Website Found Online*

**February 10:** *Top IP Mistakes of Startups and How to Avoid Them*

**February 11:** *Tax Preparation for the Self-Employed*

**February 11:** *Approaching Angel Investors and Venture Capitalists*

**February 12:** *Social Media and More: Digital Marketing Tools and Techniques*

**February 12:** *Small Business Essentials Series Certificate Program - February*

**February 12:** *Creating a Quick Business Plan*

**February 12:** *Keep More at Tax Time with Smart Bookkeeping: Understanding Your Financial Reports*

**February 13:** *Setting Up a New Business Entity*

**February 17:** *Registering to Sell to the Federal Government Market*

**February 18:** *Marketing Part 1: Developing Your Marketing Plan*

**February 19:** *Marketing Part 2: Promoting Your Business*

**February 19:** *From Marketing Plan to Action: Choosing Which Activities to Prioritize*



## SEED Corp. Offers Micro and Small Loan Programs

South Eastern Economic Development (SEED) Corporation is a regional nonprofit economic development corporation with the mission of empowering entrepreneurs, strengthening local economies, and creating jobs by financing all types of small businesses in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. SEED has a long history of assisting small business owners, is a one-stop shop for anyone looking to start-up, grow, or streamline their business.

**Use of funds:** Working capital; leasehold improvements/built-outs; inventory/supplies; real estate acquisitions (owned-occupied); furniture, fixtures, and equipment; refinancing business credit card debt. **Call (508) 822-1020 x 312 or visit SEED Corp online at [www.seedcorp.com](http://www.seedcorp.com)**



## Access to Capital for Massachusetts Businesses



Massachusetts Growth Capital Corporation (MGCC) has merged with MassDevelopment as the Growth Capital Division. This functions as a one-stop resource for debt financing for small businesses. MassDevelopment GCD drives economic growth through access to alternative funding, resources, and individualized services to identify and structure solutions tailored to each small business in Massachusetts. The purpose of MassDevelopment GCD is to create and preserve jobs at small businesses. MassDevelopment GCD also works to promote economic development throughout the Commonwealth, with special paid attention to business needs in underserved areas and Gateway Cities. Their services include small business lending from \$100,000-\$200,000; microloans from \$5,000-\$100,000; small business technical assistance grant program for non-profit assistance providers; microlending operations support & CDFI lending capital matching funds grant program; and the biz-m-power crowdfunding matching grant program. Visit [www.massdevelopment.com](http://www.massdevelopment.com) to learn more.

## Chamber Affiliation News & Events

To become an affiliate organization of the Chamber, contact Christopher Cooney at (508) 586-0500 x 223 or e-mail [chris@metrosouthchamber.com](mailto:chris@metrosouthchamber.com).

The **Avon Industrial Park Association** is a non-profit group seeking to advance the advocacy and business of its members in public and private affairs. Membership is open to all companies who operate within the confines of Avon Industrial Park in Avon, Massachusetts. For more information please visit [avonindustrialpark.org](http://avonindustrialpark.org).



The **Bridgewater Business Association (BBA)** promotes unity between local government and the business community and is committed to promoting goodwill among business owners, operating in an ethical manner, and supporting the community they serve. Visit [bridgewaterbiz.biz](http://bridgewaterbiz.biz) for more information.



The **East Bridgewater Business Association (EBBA)** was founded in 1993 "to promote a healthy business environment in East Bridgewater and to provide services to assist its members including education, networking and fellowship." Please visit [jointheebba.com](http://jointheebba.com) for more information.



The **Easton Chamber of Commerce** is a non-profit 501(c)(6) membership organization representing business and professional people. The Easton Chamber of Commerce mission is to unite, guide and support Easton businesses with the goal of increasing economic opportunities and fostering a healthy business climate. Visit [easton-chamber.com](http://easton-chamber.com) to learn more.



The **Norwell Chamber of Commerce's** mission is to promote the civic, economic and social welfare of its members and the Town of Norwell. They actively assist the Chamber members with the challenges of business growth, management and entrepreneurship. Visit [norwellchamberofcommerce.com](http://norwellchamberofcommerce.com) for more information.



The **South Shore Women's Business Network (SSWBN)**, established in 1991, was the inspiration of six women who felt that the needs of women in business were not being met by traditional organizations. They further believed there was a need for an organization that would provide networking opportunities to women and business owners on the South Shore. Visit [sswbn.org](http://sswbn.org) for more information.

## Current & Future Exhibitions at Fuller Craft Museum



**Boundless: Spotlight on Emerging Artist in Residence Sirley Cruz.** On view through March 15, 2026.



**May We Present: Recent Additions to the Permanent Collection.** On view through March 29, 2026.



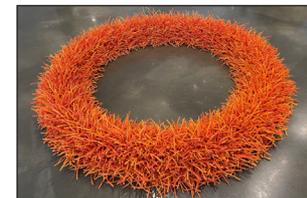
**A Shared Legacy: Gifts from the Robyn and John Horn Collection.** On view through May 3, 2026.



**Cicy Carew: BeLOVED.** On view through July 3, 2026.



**Shaping Futures: The Prison Outreach Program of New Hampshire Furniture Masters.** Coming January 24, 2026.



**MORE CLAY!: The Power of Repetition.** Coming March 28, 2026.

Fuller Craft Museum is a true gem in the region. Open Tuesday-Sunday 10AM-5PM at 455 Oak Street in Brockton, admission is offered on a pay-what-you-can basis. Visit [fullercraft.org](http://fullercraft.org) or call (508) 588-6000.



## Federal, State, and Regional Resources for Businesses

The **Metro South** is dedicated to providing support for our business community now more than ever - we're here for you. Below, please find an extensive list of federal, state, and regional resources available to everyone interested in business.



**Brockton Redevelopment Authority**  
Contact: Brockton Planning Dept.  
(508) 586-3887

**Center for Women & Enterprise**  
Contact: Berlheey Narcisse  
(617) 536-0700

**Massachusetts Office of Business Development (MOBD)**  
Contact: Alexandra Husted  
(617) 872-9926

**Massachusetts Small Business Development Center Network**  
Contact: Anne Fenton  
(508) 673-9783

**Massachusetts Supplier Diversity Office (SDO)**  
Contact: John Fitzpatrick  
(617) 720-3300

**MassDevelopment**  
Contact: Kelly Arvidson  
(508) 678-0533

**MassHire Greater Brockton Workforce Board**  
Contact: Jason Hunter  
(508) 584-3234

**MassHire Greater Brockton Career Center**  
Contact: John Murray  
(508) 513-3400

**Old Colony Planning Council**  
Contact: Mary Waldron  
(508) 583-1833 ext. 202

**SCORE Business Counselors**  
Contact: Peter Smith  
(508) 587-2673

**South Eastern Economic Development (SEED) Corporation**  
Contact: Sue Murray  
(508) 822-1020

**U.S. Small Business Administration**  
Contact: Shelly Gillis  
(617) 565-5590

## Cazeault Roofing & Siding



47 Liberty Street, Plymouth, MA 02360  
(508) 719-7017 • cazeault.com/plymouth-roofing-siding

Cazeault Roofing & Siding is your trusted local roofing company. With decades of combined experience, we specialize in comprehensive roofing solutions tailored to the unique demands of New England weather—from harsh winters with heavy snow loads to the occasional nor'easter storms. Our team delivers expert craftsmanship in roof replacement, repair, and installation, ensuring your home is protected and maintained year-round. We understand the importance of durable, weather-resistant roofing systems designed specifically for Plymouth homes, combining quality materials with local expertise to keep your property safe and secure.

## Zander Realty Group



530 Washington Street, STE 3, Stoughton, MA 02072  
(617) 470-7717 • zanderrealtygroup.com

Zander Realty Group is a modern real estate brokerage founded in 2020 by Kyle Zene, serving clients across Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Georgia. The firm blends innovative marketing, technology, and market expertise to help buyers and sellers achieve strong results. Their team prioritizes professionalism, transparency, and client-focused service throughout every transaction. Beyond real estate, they are active in their communities through events and outreach. Guided by values like integrity, excellence, and continuous growth, Zander Realty Group works to make each purchase or sale efficient, informed, and rewarding from start to finish.

## Verizon/Wireless-Zone



233 Broad Street, Unit 20, Bridgewater, MA 02324  
(508) 851-7997 www.verizon.com/stores/details/massachusetts/bridgewater/wireless-zone-bridgewater-a00000359379/

Verizon is a Verizon Authorized Retailer located at Roche Bros. Plaza on Broad Street in Bridgewater, offering the latest Verizon wireless products and services to local consumers and businesses. The store provides smartphones, tablets, accessories, tailored wireless plans, Verizon home internet, and expert customer care from a locally focused team. The Bridgewater location, part of a growing group of Wireless Zone stores, opened with community support and celebrates strong customer service and connectivity solutions for the region.

## Join the Chamber!

# YOUR BUSINESS PROFILE HERE...

...When You Join the Chamber!  
Call us at (508) 586-0500 or  
email [info@metrosouthchamber.com](mailto:info@metrosouthchamber.com)

60 School Street, Brockton  
(508) 586-0500 • metrosouthchamber.com

Join the Chamber and network your business to success! The Chamber hosts informative meetings, networking events, and puts you in touch with your legislators. We also offer marketing and advertising opportunities, referrals, publicity, and exposure.

Call to learn more today!

Visit [metrosouthchamber.com/membership/join](http://metrosouthchamber.com/membership/join)

## Starting a Business?

Need help starting your business?  
Looking for money to start your business?

The Metro South Business Assistance Center Can Help!

**COUNSELING:** Individual counseling is available by appointment for start-up and existing businesses. Counselors are working or retired professionals, highly experienced and willing to share their knowledge in financing, marketing, management, and more.

**REFERENCE MATERIALS:** An outstanding collection of reference materials that include hundreds of fully detailed, step-by-step guides for every aspect of starting and maintaining a small business.

**ACCESS:** To computer and business-related software, including QuickBooks Pro, Business Plan Pro, Loan Builder, Microsoft Office, and more.

**EDUCATION:** Workshops include QuickBooks, Writing a Business Plan, SEED Commercial, Social Media Series, DCAMM Certification, and more.

(508) 586-0500 [metrosouthchamber.com/resources/business-assistance](http://metrosouthchamber.com/resources/business-assistance).

### Major Sponsors:



## When Metro South is Home, Everything's Within Reach

Hundreds of Dining Options • Great Conference Space  
Over 500 Hotel Rooms • Many Parks & Lakes



The Metro South region offers the best of all worlds; cultural and corporate advantages, natural beauty, and the serenity of historic New England.

The region features **top notch education**, including three institutes of higher education, **exceptional health care** facilities, including four major hospitals. **Rich in culture**, the region is also home to symphonies, a craft museum, children's museum, and various historic museums. It also contains many **recreational activities**, including baseball outings, golfing and many parks and lakes for walking, biking, and fishing. With over 500 hotel rooms, the Metro South region is a **great place to stay** and competitive housing costs offer affordable and varied living opportunities.

Whether for Business or Pleasure, The Metro South region provides exceptional value in the heart of Eastern Massachusetts, centrally located between Boston, Providence, Plymouth and Cape Cod. *Ride the rail to Boston in only 35 minutes!* Call 508.586.0500 for your free map.



Metro South Regional Economic Development Organization  
For more info, contact the Metro South Chamber of Commerce,  
508.586.0500 • [www.metroouthchamber.com](http://www.metroouthchamber.com)



## BUSINESS EVENTS Planner

### February 12

#### Good Morning Metro South

8:45AM - 10:30AM

Garner Hotel  
405 Westgate Drive, Brockton

Newly remodeled and rebranded hotel, new Brockton Mayor, and FIFA World Cup Boston 2026 community celebrations, plus a ribbon cutting!

Register: [metrosouthchamber.com/events](http://metrosouthchamber.com/events)

### March 5

#### 11th Annual Multicultural Business Forum & Business After Hours

5:00PM - 7:30PM

Thorny Lea Golf Club  
159 Torrey Street, Brockton

Business After Hours networking, business resource expo, and the women & minority owned business panel featuring Dr. Sahar Mostafavi, Sharon Orthodontics; Claudie Philemond, Nath Academy Learning Center; and Jacquelyn Rose, BuzzAround.

Register: [metrosouthchamber.com/events](http://metrosouthchamber.com/events)

### April 13

#### Multi-Chamber Mega Networking

5:00PM - 7:00PM

Plainridge Park Casino  
301 Washington Street, Plainville

Multi-chamber mega networking! Connect with other business communities in neighboring towns to make new relationships and expand your network!

Register: [metrosouthchamber.com/events](http://metrosouthchamber.com/events)

### April 16

#### Business After Hours: Live Nation

5:00PM - 7:30PM

Residence Inn  
2020 Pleasant Street, Bridgewater

Join us for an evening of networking with Live Nation at Residence Inn in Bridgewater. Enjoy refreshments while forming new connections and refreshing existing ones.

Register: [metrosouthchamber.com/events](http://metrosouthchamber.com/events)