Notes from CEDS forum discussion: Small Business, 9/4

Framing what is a small business: 10 or fewer employees

* Stage, Size and Sector make for different needs

Opportunities/Challenges:

* Creating a repository of tools
  + For businesses to find financing
    - Knowing where to go
    - Knowing if you’re qualified and how to pursue opportunity
  + For employees to navigate system of pay vs. benefits
* Capacity to offer livable wages
  + Healthcare continues to be a barrier to hiring and keeping business afloat
  + So is affordable daycare…
  + And transportation
    - These three create particular difficulty for small businesses in sparsely populated areas
* Business succession: capturing value
* Capacity is still an issue for small business: Time & Capital
  + Getting to market is often a struggle
  + Mentorship is valuable
  + There’s interest in coworking

Thanks to Michelle Marracco for notes and hosting.