



WHAT ARE BEAR TEAMS?

A cooperative partnership of local economic, community and workforce development organizations working together to retain and expand local businesses.

What can BEAR offer my business?

- Help identify business needs and concerns
- Referrals to support services and resources
- Offer issue specific training opportunities
- Increase growth and profitability potential
- Produce data affecting local and state policy and legislative action.

What can BEAR offer my community??

- Opportunities to learn what is working and where we can improve.
- Opportunities to build stronger relationships with existing businesses – helping them to grow and thrive in our communities.
- Opportunities to work more cohesively with other entities, i.e., Main Street, Chambers, Economic Development Organization, SBDC, etc.
- Provide communities of Eastern Montana with a voice to address change in Montana.

How it Works!

- Step 1.** Local business people volunteer and are trained to participate in the BEAR program.
- Step 2.** Local businesses may apply or are selected to become a BEAR client.
- Step 3.** Trained BEAR volunteers conduct a dialogue session with the business owner to learn about the business.
- Step 4.** The BEAR Assessment Team reviews the dialogue information and identifies areas of opportunity and/or need.
- Step 5.** With consent & acknowledgement from the business owner, the appropriate resource(s) will contact the client and arrange a meeting to discuss how best to move the business forward. Initial advice and assistance is provided at no cost. Not all resources provided are free, but in most cases the return on the investment made will benefit the company.

Note:

- ** Information provided to BEAR Teams is on a volunteer basis.
- ** Confidentiality statements are signed by all BEAR Team participants.
- ** Privacy is highly respected.

For more information contact:

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I would be interested in being interviewed by the BEAR team. Yes ___ Not interested at this time ___

Business Name: _____ Contact Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____