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BUSINESS

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FREE HELP FOR SMALL BUSINESSES IS HERE.

Heather Fraser
Central Oregonian

There are at least 575 small businesses in Prineville and in this economy, free help can be invaluable.

Enterprise Facilitation is offering free and confidential services to Prineville small businesses and in four surrounding counties.

The goal of this organization is to help small businesses find the resources they need to succeed.

"Central Oregon doesn't have the resources to help small businesses get what they need to get going," said Greg A. Hohensee, Enterprise Facilitator. "In Prineville, people have amazing skills, and we want to let them know they don't have to go it alone"

The Enterprise Facilitation is made of up of one paid employee, Greg Hohensee, and 50 volunteer resource board members. When a new small business is starting, Hohensee visits with that client, gets idea of their needs, then presents the ideas and issues to the board. The board then makes recommendations to this business that will help the business to be successful.

"We have a 90% success rate by just making sure people aren't alone," said Hohensee. We have shown a 93% success rate in Baker since we started implementing this program."

This program is mostly funded by government grants with some private and public funding. "We want this program to eventually be completely funded from the community," said Hohensee.

Hohensee doesn't have an office.

"I travel to the client's kitchen table, coffee shop, or up to my ankles in cow poop," said Hohensee. Prineville entrepreneurs will have the opportunity to meet with Hohensee face to face. They can get an idea of what this program can do for them in the class being offered in the end of January, or can log onto the web site anytime to get more information.

www.centraloregonmicroenterprise.com