

MILE HIGH UNITED WAY UNITED FOR BUSINESS



CREATING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL

Our United for Business program provides small business owners with free consulting services and classes in the areas of accounting, marketing, legal support and more.

115

businesses participated in skill development workshops

\$ 4.26M

in capital distributed to small business owners

36+

small businesses received personalized consulting services

What We're Doing

We're grateful for community partners and donors like you who help us expand access to our United for Business program across Metro Denver. Thank you!



Last year, United for Business staff and volunteers supported more than 500 Metro Denver small business owners, distributing \$4.26 million in capital through public and private grants and loans. This assistance helps small business owners reach their goals and gain additional stability.

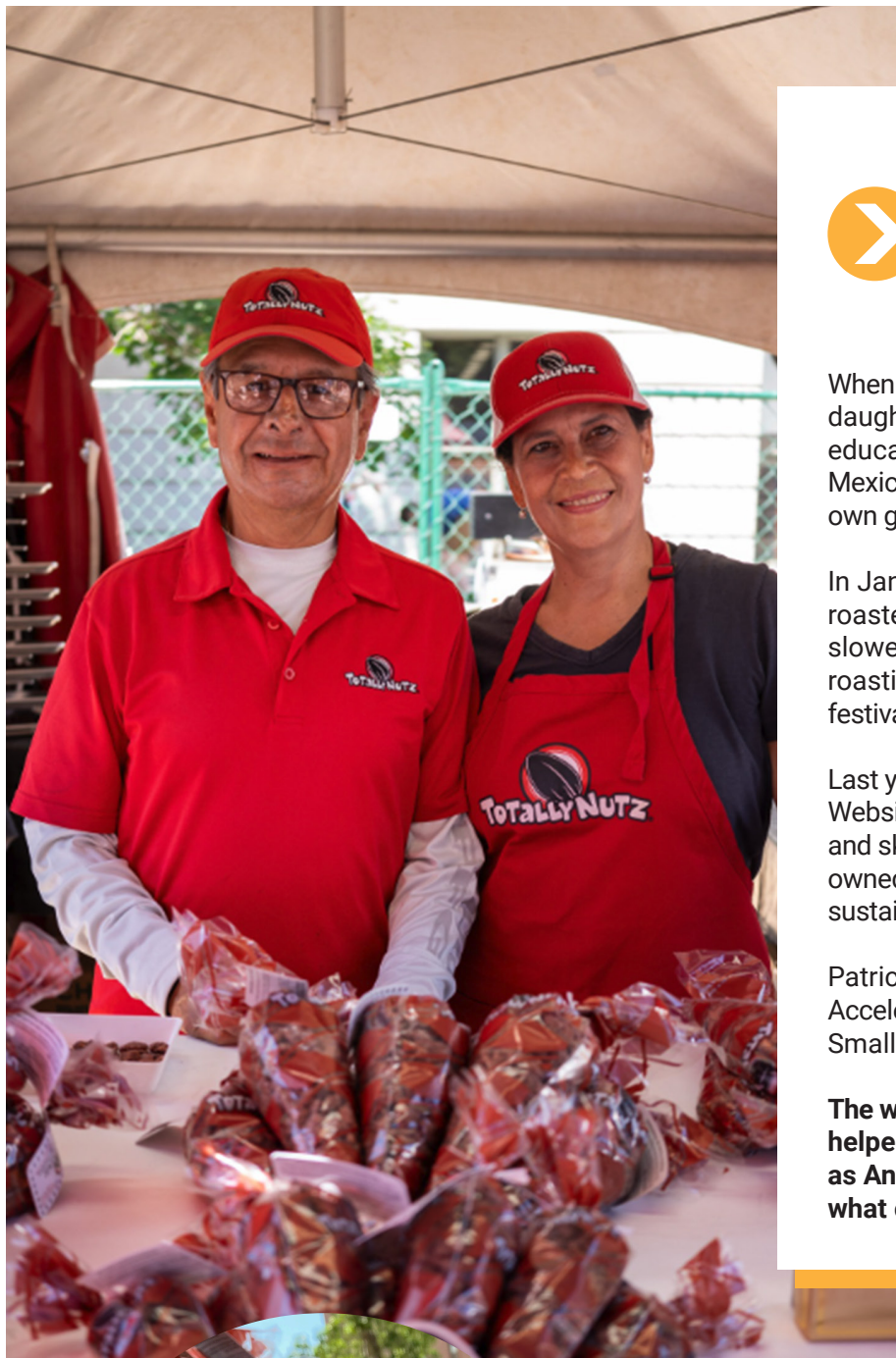


"I feel like I've grown so much being in this program . . . It has helped me tremendously and it's been a great experience."

– **Felicia Walton,**
Phatty Boom
founder and owner



In 2023, 13 small business owners joined the first Mile High United Way Small Business Accelerator, hosted in partnership with SEA Change, the Colorado Black Chamber of Commerce and Daniels School of Business, University of Denver. This 14-week accelerator helped participants develop critical skills and build pathways to financial capital. We are excited to run a second cohort in winter 2024.



WRAPAROUND SUPPORT FUELS BUSINESS GROWTH

When Antonio Fuentes and Patricia Hernandez's daughter moved to Denver to achieve her educational dreams, the couple left their native Mexico City to stay close to family and pursue their own goals of financial growth and independence.

In January 2020, they opened Totally Nutz, a roasted nut franchise. However, the pandemic slowed their fledgling business, which relies on roasting and selling nuts at in-person events like festivals and fairs.

Last year, they joined the United for Business Website Build Initiative, where business advisors and skilled volunteers help women- and minority-owned businesses develop new websites and sustainable digital marketing strategies.

Patricia also enrolled in the Small Business Accelerator and the couple attended the THRIVE Small Business Summit in the spring.

The wraparound support from United for Business helped Totally Nutz grow and expand its reach as Antonio and Patricia continue to dream of what comes next for their company.



"Mile High United Way has really helped us understand how to make (our business) grow. Even getting to know other small business owners has been a great help."

– Antonio Fuentes, Totally Nutz co-founder and owner

WE CANNOT DO THIS WITHOUT YOU! VISIT OUR WEBSITE, [UNITEDWAYDENVER.ORG](https://unitedwaydenver.org), TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR WORK.