

NEWS RELEASE

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Downtown Suffolk Business Pitch Winners

SUFFOLK, Virginia (January 16, 2019) – The **winners** have been selected! Last night, Tuesday, January 15, 2019, the Suffolk Economic Development Authority and the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development held their **Community Business Launch “Pitch Night”** event. Twenty individuals completed the program’s business education workshop course and nine submitted business plans to participate in the pitch competition.

Five entrepreneurs were selected to come to the Suffolk Center for Cultural Arts stage to share their most innovative and creative ideas at the well-attended event. Each business had five minutes to share their vision for the live audience and judge’s panel. Four entrepreneurs were awarded cash grants. Congratulations to the winners:

- **Brick & Mortar Brewing Company \$15,000**
- **Sparc Shoppe \$15,000**
- **Groundworks Bar & Bistro \$10,000**
- **Elizabeth & Maude Boutique \$5,000**

The businesses are expected to expand their existing operations or open in Downtown Suffolk this year.



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