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## Vision Shared hosts a statewide crowdfunding event

*CHARLESTON, W.Va. – Vision Shared gives West Virginia entrepreneurs a chance to earn up to \$5,000 to build or expand their business.*

West Virginia economic development organization [Vision Shared, Inc.](#), is hosting a statewide [Entrepreneurs' Café All-Stars](#) event on Thursday, September 12, 2013 beginning at 5:30 p.m. Presenters scheduled to participate in the event represent the “best of the best” from West Virginia Café Program communities and have each competed and won community-based competitions.

The *Vision Shared Entrepreneurs' Café Program* provides venues for entrepreneurs to present their ideas and funding needs for community support. On the community level, organizers host events to provide micro awards to entrepreneurs with ideas that best suit their community's needs. The *Entrepreneurs' Café All-Stars* event features representatives from Wheeling, Huntington, Fayetteville, Shepherdstown, Charleston (The Charleston Area Alliance THRIVE Program), Williamson, and Clarksburg.

Vision Shared has steered the organization of six community café programs modeled after successful programs started in Huntington, West Virginia.

“As Vision Shared continues to focus significant efforts on further developing entrepreneurial concepts, establishing café programs moved quickly to the top of our priority list. These events give entrepreneurs the opportunity to secure funding, provide a valuable network for these business owners, and help educate communities on the importance of supporting and investing in small business growth and development,” said Rebecca McPhail Randolph, president of [Vision Shared](#).

To demonstrate the concept of crowdfunding, the proceeds of tickets sales for the event fund the award to the winning presenter. Tickets are available to the public and include a networking reception, dinner, presentations by the ‘All-Stars’, and the right to vote for the winning presentation. Additional event information, presenter profiles, and online ticket purchasing is available at [www.visionshared.com/allstar](http://www.visionshared.com/allstar).

The event is sponsored in part by The BB&T Center for American Capitalism at Marshall University and Charles Ryan and Associates.

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Vision Shared Inc. is a statewide nonprofit, nonpartisan community and economic development organization in West Virginia. Its mission is to strengthen the economy, transform communities, promote progressive government and improve the quality of life for West Virginians. Learn more at [www.visionshared.com](http://www.visionshared.com).