



Department of
Development

Minority Business Assistance Center

THE EmpowerUS AWARDS

YBI is hosting its inaugural **EmpowerUS Awards** on **February 26, 2026, at Stambaugh Auditorium. Doors open at 10:45 a.m.**, with a marketplace of local vendors and a brunch buffet.

The honoree recognition program will start at **11:45 a.m.**

Presented in partnership with the Ohio Department of Development's Minority Business Assistance Center (MBAC), hosted at YBI.

EmpowerUS is a mission-driven awards program created to celebrate the achievements of minority-owned businesses and the partners who support them. The event is centered on recognition, community, and impact. It is not a fundraiser, but a moment to uplift the entrepreneurs who shape our region's economic future.

The categories and honorees are:

- Small Business: **Rhonda Bowser**, BCI Granite
- On the Rise: **Jasmine Neal**, Healing Hearts CPR
- Nonprofit: **Angelica Diaz**, OCCHA, Inc.
- Trailblazer: **Jeff Green**, Jazz in the Park
- Legacy Award: **Ryan Gilchrist**, Ryan's Chair

We hope you'll come out to help us celebrate these organizations, as well as the work of our Minority Business Assistance Center and our partners at the Ohio Department of Development.

Sponsorships and tickets are available at: <https://ybi.org/empowerus-awards/>

Please contact Luke Politsky with any questions

📞 (330) 519-7997

📍 241 W. Federal St., Youngstown, OH 44503

✉ lpolitsky@ybi.org

🌐 ybi.org

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Community Cornerstone - \$5,000

THANK YOU!!!!



Huntington

SOLD OUT

Community Innovator - \$2,500

- Table of 8 with reserved seating
- Naming rights for one of the awards
- Digital ad running during the event
- Vendor table opportunity
- Logo displayed on sponsorship loop
- Logo displayed on website event page
- Logo displayed on all printed materials
- Logo displayed on the back of EmpowerUS t-shirts (8 t-shirts included in sponsorship)

Community Leader - \$1,000

- 4 Tickets with reserved seating
- Digital ad running during the event
- Vendor table opportunity
- Name displayed on sponsorship loop
- Name displayed on website event page

Community Ally - \$500

- 2 Tickets with reserved seating
- Digital ad running during the event
- Name displayed on sponsorship loop
- Name displayed on website event page

Tickets - \$35 — \$280

- Individual Tickets — \$35 a ticket
- Table of 8 — \$280

Digital Ads - \$100

- Digital Ads to be displayed at the event
- Digital ads should be sized in a 16:9 format and submitted by February 13