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## All the buzz about small biz

Virginia Local Initiatives Support Corporation, Capital One and Storefront for Community Design awarded \$40,000 in grant funding to five small businesses located in Highland Park on Saturday, May



12.

The grants were given as part of the second round of the small business grant program called 6 BIZ, which Virginia LISC, Capital One and Storefront for Community Design launched in 2017 to beautify facades and stabilize local businesses surrounding the six point intersection in Highland Park through grant funding and small business coaching.

"Thank you all so much for this opportunity," said Maggie Bandas, owner of the Chicken Box and second round 6 BIZ winner. Bandas received \$8,500 to install new doors and windows.

The other four winners included: Mike Murshed, owner of Six Points Market, who received \$4,000 for brick pavers and landscaping; Jenn Garcia-Brown, owner of Blair's Beauty &



Barber, who received \$7,500 to power wash her business, add new signage and make repairs to the exterior; Mike Simpson, owner of Simpson's market, who will use his \$10,000 grant to repair the exterior of his business, refurbish signage, add exterior lighting and install new windows and doors; and Alonzo Trimiew, owner of Trim's

Barbershop, who will use his \$10,000 grant for new signage, doors, barber polls and exterior repairs.

"These business owners have collectively invested more than 100 years into this neighborhood, and it is an honor to now be able to invest in them," said Shekinah Mitchell, the neighborhood partnerships manager at Virginia LISC and the 6 BIZ program manager.

For more information on the 6 BIZ grant program, contact Shekinah Mitchell at 804.505.4697 or at [smitchell@lisc.org](mailto:smitchell@lisc.org).

## SEED applications due June 30

SEED Round 7 is underway, with applications and business plans due June 30. Church Hill businesses that are located or looking to locate along the 25th Street and Nine Mile corridors, specifically in the blocks leading up to the intersection of Nine Mile and 25th Street, are preferred.

The applications can be found [HERE](#). Please send all applications to Killeen King at [Kking@lisc.org](mailto:Kking@lisc.org) or to the Virginia LISC office (413 Stuart Circle, Suite 300, Richmond, VA 23220).

