

Neighborhood Business Initiative (NBI) in a Nutshell

Committed to building neighborhood businesses for diverse, vibrant neighborhoods



Our Values

We value:



Access to Justice

Providing access to all law, for all people



Community Development

Supporting small businesses that promote diverse and vibrant neighborhoods



Equity for all

Dismantling systemic barriers based on race, ethnic background, immigration status, gender and LGBTQ+ status

Our Mission

The mission of Goodwin's **Neighborhood Business Initiative** is to promote equity and support wealth creation in communities that face discrimination based on race, ethnicity, immigration status, gender and/or sexual orientation by providing pro bono legal services to entrepreneurs and small business owners who are members of, or whose businesses positively impact, such communities.



Serving Neighborhood Businesses

We support entrepreneurs and small business owners who:

- Are members of underserved and/or under-resourced communities
- Face discrimination based on race, ethnicity, immigration status, gender or sexual orientation, as well as other barriers related to wage employment and/or to establishing and growing their businesses
- Cannot afford to pay for the legal services they need to take their enterprise to the next level

What We Do

Our Objectives are:

- To provide pro bono business legal services – including direct representation, workshops and clinics – to qualifying entrepreneurs and small business owners
- To provide Goodwin lawyers, corporate in-house counsel and legal paraprofessionals with business law pro bono opportunities that align with their expertise

How We Are Different

- Serve **for-profit** businesses and entrepreneurs in underserved communities
- Bring resources **directly into neighborhoods** by offering workshops and clinics in collaboration with local community development organizations
- Operate as an **in-house legal services organization** that provides our community partners with thoughtful, experience-driven curriculum and screening, intake and staffing infrastructure

Sample Programs

Workshops

- Catering & Contracts
- Choice of Entity
- Crowdfunding
- Doing Business Online
- Food Labeling
- Negotiating a Commercial Lease
- Paycheck Protection Program
- Raising Capital for Small and Very Small Businesses
- Enrollment Contracts and Hiring Employees for Childcare Providers
- Strategies for Tough Situations

Clinics

- Legal only
- Business and Legal Speed Coaching
 - Joining with experts in branding, design, accounting, lending, marketing and planning
- Hybrids
 - Choice of Entity Hybrid
 - Leasing Hybrid

A Brief History of NBI

- Our efforts were founded in 2001 in Boston, MA
- In 2005, Goodwin formalized its business law pro bono project into the Neighborhood Business Initiative
- 2013: NBI expanded to New York
- 2016: NBI expanded to California
- 2021: NBI expanded to Washington, DC and London

Massachusetts

Community Partners Past & Present

- Accion (now Ascendus and Accion Opportunity Fund)
- BizGrow, Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights
- BPL Kirstein Business Library and Innovation Center
- Bunker Hill Community College
- Center for Women and Enterprise (CWE)
- City of Boston Office of Business Development
- Codman Square Neighborhood Development Corporation
- CommonWealth Kitchen
- Conservation Law Foundation – Legal Food Hub
- Dedham Square Circle
- Dorchester Bay Economic Development Corporation
- DotWell
- Egleston Square Main Street
- Four Corners Main Street
- Haley House
- Jamaica Plain NDC
- Massachusetts Society of Certified Public Accountants
- Neighborhood Trust
- North Bennet Street School
- Nuestra Comunidad
- Roxbury Innovation Center
- SkyLab Boston
- Town of Dedham, Inc.
- VietAid, Inc.
- United Way Shared Services of MA

Some of Our Neighborhoods

- Charlestown
- Dorchester
- Jamaica Plain
- Mattapan
- Roxbury



New York

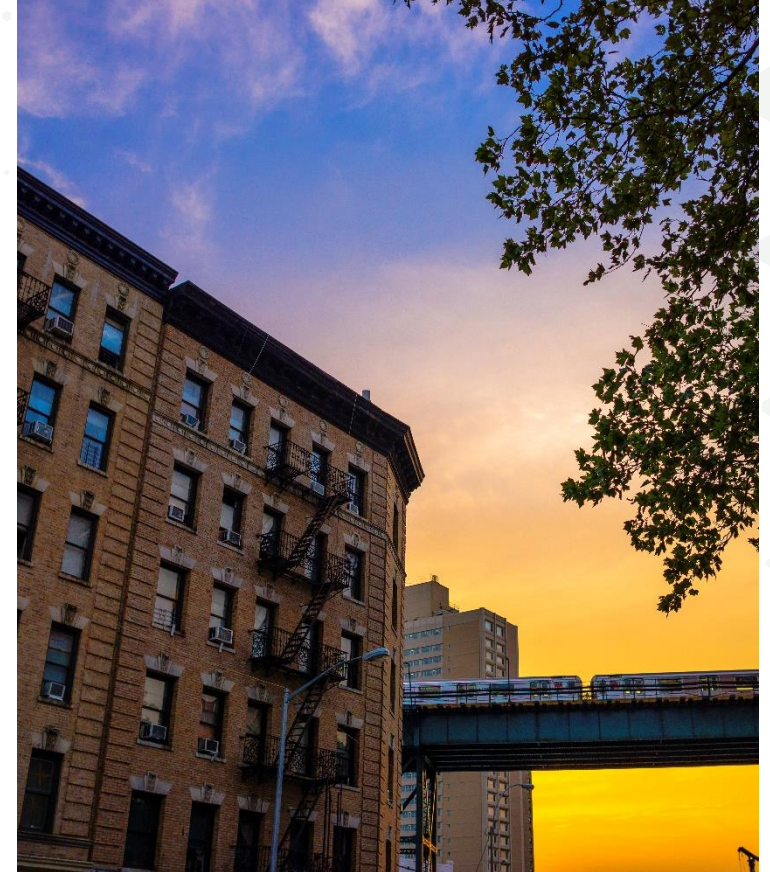
Community Partners Past & Present

- Accion (now Ascendus and Accion Opportunity Fund)
- Bed Stuy Gateway Bid
- BKLYN Commons
- Bridge Street Development Corporation
- Bunker Labs (Veteran Entrepreneurs)
- The Center for Urban Business Entrepreneurship (CUBE)
- City Bar Justice Center Neighborhood Entrepreneur Law Project
- Communitas Ventures
- Hot Bread Kitchen
- Lawyers for Good Government (L4GG)
- Legal Aid Society Community Development Project
- Local Development Corporation of East New York

- Myrtle Avenue Brooklyn Partnership
- Neighborhood Trust
- Start Small Think Big (SSTB)
- VOLS Microenterprise Project

Some of Our Neighborhoods

- Bedford-Stuyvesant
- East New York
- Harlem



California

Community Partners Past & Present

- Accion (now Accion Opportunity Fund)
- Bet Tzedek
- Lawyers for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area — Legal Services for Entrepreneurs (LSE)
- Pacific Asian Consortium in Employment (PACE)
- Public Counsel
- Start Small Think Big (SSTB)

Some of Our Neighborhoods

- Central Los Angeles
- LA Koreatown, Little Tokyo, Filipino Town & Thai Town
- Oakland
- San Francisco



By the Numbers: National

Since 2001

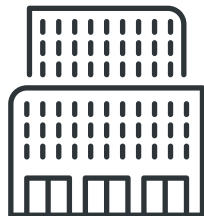


Over
1,020
Goodwin lawyers and
professionals have invested



Over
35,400 hours
in pro bono legal services
through NBI

To Date



we have offered
351
workshops and clinics



represented more than
428
low-income entrepreneurs and
small business owners

By the Numbers: Regions

Massachusetts

Since 2001:

- More than **25,300** hours of lawyer and professional time invested in start-up, curriculum, workshops, intake and transaction representations
- **263** workshops and clinics
- More than **251** individual representations of low-income businesses

New York

Since January 2013:

- More than **7,950** hours of lawyer and professional time invested in start-up, curriculum, workshops, intake and transaction representations
- **68** workshops and clinics
- More than **126** individual representations of low-income small businesses

California

Since March 2016:

- More than **1,950** hours of lawyer and professional time invested in start-up, curriculum, workshops, intake and transaction representations
- **20** workshops and clinics
- More than **51** individual representations of low-income small businesses

Get in Touch

For more information, including how to apply for pro bono business legal services or how to partner with us to support your organization's service to small business owners and entrepreneurs, please contact us at **probono@goodwinlaw.com**

Thank You

The image features a solid grey background. In the upper left quadrant, the words "Thank You" are written in a large, white, sans-serif font. In the bottom right corner, there are several thin, bright orange lines that form a series of connected segments, creating a stylized, abstract geometric shape that resembles a corner or a folded piece of paper.