Lux Hair Studio (Start-up)

SUCCESS STORY

Ashley Weyandt, Owner Lux Hair Studio 201 Wayne Street Hollidaysburg, PA 16648 Blair County



Small Business Development Center Saint Francis University

St. Francis University SBDC

P.O. Box 600 Loretto, PA 15940 814.472.3200 sbdc@francis.edu francis.edu/sbdc **Industry:** Hair Salon

Year Founded: 2022 Consultant: Jeff Boldizar

Special Interest Group:

Rural Development Underserved Communities Accelerators + Incubators Export Millennials/Gen-Z Tech Development Covid-19 Response Disaster Recovery Veterans <u>Women-Owned</u> Special Populations SBDC Assistance: Business plan, Financial projections, Funding

Additional Partners: Altoona-Blair County Development Corporation

Client Impact Stat: 4 jobs created

Quote From Client:

"I can't thank the SBDC enough for all they did for me."

-Ashley Weyandt, Owner



Ashley Weyandt, Lux Hair Studio, Duncansville PA. February 17, 2022.

Lux Hair Studio Opens in Blair County

Ashley Weyandt has been working in the beauty salon industry for the past few years. She has always enjoyed working on hair and with beauty products. She enjoys learning about new trends, attending trade shows, and talking with her customers. She felt there was more to the industry that what she was experiencing as an employee.

She had often thought about opening her own salon someday but figured that may be off in the future. After considering the idea and talking it over with her husband, she decided she would investigate starting her own business. She was not sure where to start, so she talked to her local banker about getting started. The bank suggested that she contact the SBDC to discuss her idea for opening her own salon. They explained to her that there was more involved in getting started other than determining how much money she needed to borrow.

Ashley contacted the Center, and we had an initial telephone conversation about her plan and we scheduled a meeting to further discuss the project. She has various ideas for the salon and also

needed a location. We discussed the fact that the location for the business will have an impact on the startup costs for the business. She would need equipment, supplies, possible renovations etc. She would also need working capital to cover the operating expenses during the start-up phase of the business. She was also interested in whether they were other sources of potential financing beside the bank. During the planning process, she became aware of a potential location in Duncansville.

The Center assisted Ashley in completing her business plan, projected financial statements and assumptions for the projections. The goal was to show the owner's knowledge of the business, the market potential for her salon in Blair County and the ability to service the proposed debt.

Due to the small amount of financing required to get the salon open, this project was a candidate for the Altoona Blair County Development (ABCD) Corporation's First Frontier Loan Fund. This fund is set-up to target businesses that are seeking financing of less than \$20,000. The bank she initially spoke with wanted her to pledge additional collateral for the loan. She was looking at another option, so the Center referred her to ABCD Corporation. They were able to approve her loan through the First Frontier Loan Fund. Ashley also invested personal funds into the project as well. Since opening, Ashley has already outgrown her location and moved to a larger facility in Hollidaysburg. In addition to Ashley, the salon employs three other stylists.