

Worker-Owned Enterprises

Building wealth through worker cooperatives

A worker cooperative is a values-driven business that is owned and controlled by the people who work there. Around the world, people recognize the benefits of worker cooperatives for building wealth and promoting community economic development. However, while worker cooperatives have longer lifespans and better financial health than comparably-sized traditional businesses, lack of institutional support hinders the widespread creation of worker cooperatives in the United States.

In response, Catalyst Miami's **Worker-Owned Enterprises** sets out to create worker cooperatives in low-wealth communities throughout Miami-Dade County using three distinct strategies:

- 1 Our academy provides the knowledge necessary for residents of low-wealth communities to form cooperatives.
- 2 Our incubator provides early-stage cooperatives with the business, financial and legal help they need to launch their ventures.
- 3 We are building a local ecosystem that supports cooperative development through free educational sessions, community meetings, and collaborations with partner organizations.

GOALS



Help residents of low-wealth communities prosper and build equitable futures by generating and keeping wealth in the community.



Build worker cooperatives whose members become engaged leaders in community economic development efforts.



Build an ecosystem for worker cooperatives that nurtures community-controlled economic development.

IMPACT



This program is the first of its kind in Florida.



It is the first in South Florida to advocate for worker cooperatives as a tool for democratic community economic development.



It helps residents of low-wealth communities launch sustainable businesses that build generational and community-based wealth.

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