# Asheville B Corp Network | Mountain BizWorks

"B Corp is to business what Fair Trade certification is to coffee or USDA Organic certification is to milk." – B Lab

How can you tell the difference between good marketing and a good company? B Corp certification!

B Corps are for-profit businesses certified by the nonprofit <u>B Lab</u> to meet rigorous standards of social and environmental performance, accountability, and transparency. To learn more about B Corps and the movement in WNC, see below and <u>attend our upcoming events</u>.

#### WHO WE ARE

Mountain BizWorks and the owners of area Certified B Corporations (B Corps) and like-minded business have joined forces to make Western North Carolina a B Corp hub. We're the **Asheville B Corp Network**, and we want to educate our community about this powerful new type of company, help interested local businesses become certified, and bring existing B Corps here to WNC.

WNC's current Certified Bs are listed below. We'll add other collaborating triple bottom line businesses soon.



#### **B THE CHANGE**

Want to get involved in the movement but aren't sure where to start?

**First:** Join the <u>B the Change Asheville online meetup group</u> for all the latest information, networking, and conversation.

**Second:** Have lunch with a B Corp! Contact us at the Asheville B Corp Network, and we'll coordinate a lunch meeting between you and a local Certified B Corporation. If you're considering certification, it's the

perfect chance to ask questions and be inspired by a fellow entrepreneur using business as a force for good.

**Third:** Attend one of our exciting <u>upcoming events</u>.

Fourth: Don't forget to check this page often for updates!

### **BECOMING A B CORP**

Just how do you become certified? In three simple steps:

- 1) <u>Meet B Lab's performance requirements</u>, by completing the B Impact Assessment and earning the required minimum score;
- 2) Meet B Lab's legal requirement; and
- 3) Make it official, by signing the B Corp Declaration of Interdependence.

Certification is a way to participate vocally in this vital movement and show the world that you do business differently. Other advantages include differentiating your business from competitors, generating press, and attracting investors. Learn more about and get assistance with certification at <u>our upcoming</u> events, or visit B Lab online at <u>bcorporation.net</u>.

## WHY B CORPS IN WNC?

Our region is home to people and companies that care about the triple bottom line: not just the financial impact of their life and business, but also the oft-overlooked social and environmental impacts. That's what being a B Corp is all about: B Corps aspire to use the power of markets to solve social and environmental problems.

According to the nonprofit B Lab, which works to build a global community of Certified B Corporations:

**Individually,** B Corps meet the highest standards of verified social and environmental performance, public transparency, and legal accountability.

**Collectively,** B Corps lead a growing global movement of *people using business as a force for good*<sup>TM</sup>. Through the power of their collective voice, one day all companies will compete to be *best for the world*<sup>TM</sup>, and society will enjoy a more shared and durable prosperity for all.