

ACCELERATING BLACK LEADERSHIP AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (ABLE)

United States



LEAD ORGANIZATION



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ABLE is Working to Close the Opportunity Gap

African Diaspora Network (ADN) is committed to addressing the opportunity gap faced by Black entrepreneurs and leaders through the Builders of Africa's Future (BAF) and Accelerating Black Leadership and Entrepreneurship (ABLE) programs. Both accelerators are reflective of ADN's vision to make a difference on the continent of Africa and the communities in which we live.

Recognizing that access to capital remains a significant barrier for Black entrepreneurs, ABLE empowers individuals to achieve their entrepreneurial ambitions by equipping participants with the necessary skills, connections, and financial support. The ABLE program offers a comprehensive range of resources including mentorship from seasoned industry experts, capacity-building workshops, networking opportunities, and modest funding assistance.

Last Opportunity to Apply for ABLE

If you are an aspiring Black Business owner, entrepreneur, or leader based in the United States, now is the time to take advantage of this incredible opportunity. The ABLE program is currently **accepting applications for the next cohort until June 28th, 11:59 PM PDT**. By applying to join ABLE's vibrant community, you can unlock the doors to funding and resources that will propel your entrepreneurial journey forward. **Apply today at <https://bit.ly/ApplyABLECohort3>** and pave the way for a future of success. Learn more about ABLE's impact through the impact reports here: [Cohort 1 Impact Report](#) and [Cohort 2 Impact Report](#).

Apply Today

Success Stories

In the face of systematic disparities, ABLE aims to level the playing field by providing crucial access to funding and resources. ABLE has already made an impact in supporting 27 entrepreneurs and leaders, from 2 cohorts. Read some stories from alumni below.

We are our proud of the impact these ABLE alumni make and hope their stories inspire other entrepreneurs to make ABLE part of their journey.



Akissi Stokes

CEO & Cofounder, WUNDERgrubs, LLC.

Akissi is an ABLE Cohort 1 alumnus. She never thought growing up on her grandfather's farm would now become her life's mission. Except she traded in cows for insects. She believes the sustainable farming of insects, leveraged with technology, unlocks the potential to help us regenerate natural resources, alleviate waste from landfills, and reimagine more resilient food systems.

ADN provided Akissi Stokes with support in updating her business model. As a result of her experience in the ABLE program, she was accepted into the Techstars Atlanta Social Impact Accelerator in February 2022. Akissi and WUNDERgrubs were also awarded a significant pre-seed seed investment of \$120,000. Akissi and WUNDERgrubs continues to thrive.

[Learn More](#)



Kristal Hansley

Founder & CEO of WeSolar, Inc.

Kristal Hansley is the Founder & CEO of WeSolar, Inc and is the nation's first Black Woman CEO in the community solar industry. Through WeSolar, electricity consumers can purchase shared solar from a local project without having to install any equipment in their homes. In turn, residents save hundreds on their electricity bills.

Kristal Hansley has secured an unprecedented multimillion dollar community solar partnership with the University of Maryland!

[Learn More](#)

Join the ABLE Review Team



ADN seeks seasoned professionals, industry experts, academicians, and volunteers interested in reviewing ADN's Accelerating Black Leadership and Entrepreneurship (ABLE) program accelerator applications. Help us identify the next 15-20 entrepreneurs to receive a fully paid entrepreneurship and leadership training, mentorship, and a platform to pitch.

Applications for ABLE will be due by mid June. The estimated time frame for reviews is late May through early July 2023.

[Sign Up Today](#)

Support African Diaspora Network



Looking to have a more active role as a member of African Diaspora Network?

Learn more about ways to engage:

- Invite a friend to subscribe to our newsletter by sending them the link [here](#)
- Follow us on social media: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#)
- Subscribe to our [YouTube channel](#)
- Give Through Silicon Valley Community Foundation ([SVCF](#)) Donor-advised fund
- Mentor entrepreneurs participating in our ABLE and/or BAF programs. Contact Brett Cave, Entrepreneurship Programs Manager at brett@africandiasporanetwork.org to learn more.
- Be an organizational sponsor and support the African Diaspora Network to bring together diverse people from around the world to collaborate and work together. Support ADN [HERE](#)
- Fill out the ADN Engagement form [here](#).

Engagement Opportunities

A Special Thank You to Our Funders

See full list [here](#).



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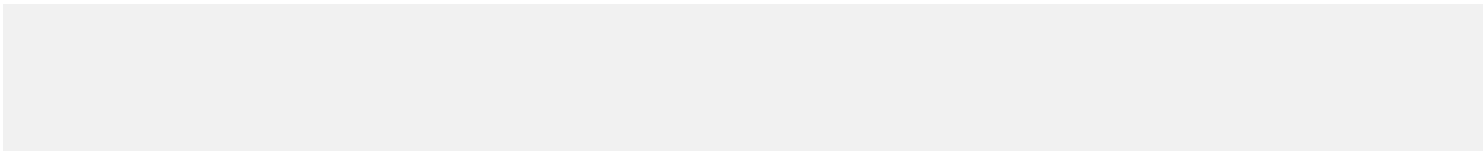
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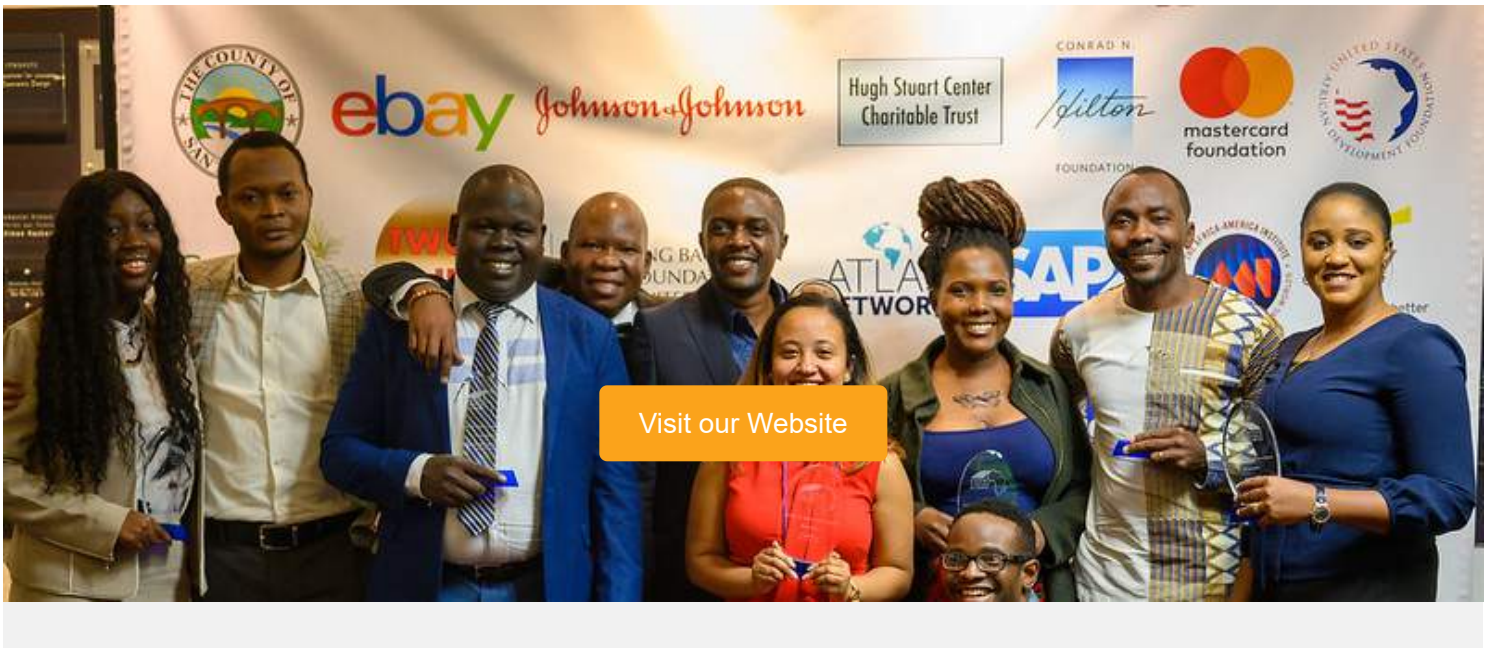
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Media Coverage

See full list [here](#).







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