



## **HOW PROJECT OPEN WORKS:**

*Applicants must reside in Saline County Kansas or own a small business in Salina Kansas.*

Project Open includes **Entrepreneur Training and Business Development Services.**

*Applicants must successfully complete Entrepreneur Training prior to qualifying for Business Development Funds.*

**Entrepreneur Training** is available through KSBDC and FastTrac® courses. These fee based courses focus on best business practices and business plan development. The course fees may be partially reimbursable upon satisfactory completion.

**Business Development Services** include competitive grants and mentoring support.

Entrepreneurs who successfully complete the educational component will be eligible to apply for a one time grant of up to \$5,000 for expansion or startup. These funds are on a first come bases and the decision to award the funds rests solely with the Project OPEN Partners. If you are awarded funds, Project Open will monitor to assure that the awarded funds are used as you have stated in your business plan. Project Open extends further support by providing participants with a network of experienced, successful business mentors they may rely on after the courses end and they continue building their business.

## **PROCESS:**

Fill out the Application form and submit to Larry Powell, Director of Business Retention and Expansion, P O Box 586 Salina, KS 67402-0586 or deliver to 120 W. Ash street Salina, Kansas. On line applications are posted at [www.salinakansas.org](http://www.salinakansas.org) and [www.salinadowntown.com](http://www.salinadowntown.com)

A Project Open team will review your application and contact you to schedule a time to further discuss your ideas. The discussion will help clarify where you are in the preparatory stages with regard to your goals, established business development strategies and determine which training options will be most beneficial to you. By signing an agreement to follow the mutually agreed upon goals, you will be eligible for **Project Open Services.**