



Department of
Development

Success Stories

Emerald City Construction



*Emerald City Construction in Youngstown
Mahoning County*

Business owner Keland Logan observes this simple motto. *“In order to get to the EMERALD CITY, we will need to use our brains, keep Love in our hearts, have Lots of courage, and follow the ‘Yellow Brick’ road.”*

Created to provide general construction services that drive the health of the environment and its people, Emerald City Construction’s overall mission is to apply sustainable methods and technologies that help mitigate negative impacts on homes, businesses, and the environment due to outdated practices in development and construction/rehab activities. Many of the projects and opportunities Keland wanted to target were at and/or above the municipal level which, in most cases, required certification and capital for a company like Emerald City to truly be competitive.

“We learned about the local Minority Business Assistance Center (MBAC) at Youngstown Business Incubator (YBI), the resources available there, and decided that if we were going to ever grow into the company that we set out to become, then MBAC - Youngstown was where we needed to be,” stated Keland.

Emerald City received assistance with obtaining MBE/EDGE certifications, accessing an extensive network of partners and relationships that have yielded more than \$200,000 in awarded contracts, education, and connections to funding opportunities from the State of Ohio and other financially empowering institutions.

Keland noted his company’s morale and culture significantly improved since its partnership with MBAC, stating the company is now taken seriously by local development decision makers, and other stakeholders in the region’s construction industry.

“There’s an old saying that people who help themselves, get the most help from those who are willing to lend a helping hand,” said Keland. *“Coming to MBAC was a statement to all that Emerald City Construction is serious about building a viable future.”*

Since partnering with MBAC, Emerald City Construction’s progress and status has grown. Keland currently employs five full-time employees (up from one prior to engaging MBAC) and several subcontractors servicing two open six-figure contracts. Emerald City Construction completed several smaller contracts ranging from \$10,000-\$70,000 for the State of Ohio, The Raymond John Wean Foundation, and the ABC Stormwater District, just to name a few.

Emerald City Construction is also poised to capitalize on a portion of an \$8 million senior housing development (\$1.2 million MBE set aside) because of the relationship and help it received at the local MBAC.



For more information, visit:
www.emeraldcityco.com



Minority Business
Assistance Centers

MBAC.Development.Ohio.gov