



Quaboag Valley  
Community Development Corporation  
and Business Assistance Corporation

# Spring 2023 Newsletter

qvcdc.org

## Let us help your business reach its goals in 2023!

The Quaboag Valley Community Development Corporation offers an array of services to help your business succeed.

We offer small business loans, help small businesses get assistance with accounting, marketing and legal matters and offer over 19 computer classes such as QuickBooks, SERVSafe and the Microsoft Office programs.



Quaboag Valley  
Community Development Corporation  
and Business Assistance Corporation

23 West Main Street  
Suite 1  
Ware, MA 01082  
413-967-3001  
www.qvcdc.org

Quaboag Valley Business Assistance Corporation offers loans to existing and startup businesses operating within our area that cannot access equivalent funding through conventional resources.

Loans range from \$500 to over \$100,000 for start-up equipment, purchase of assets, acquisition of business-related real estate, refinancing, debt restructure and working capital, as well as gap financing.

The intent of our program is to customize a loan that is manageable for the borrower.

If you are interested in a small business loan: submit a pre-application online at [qvcdc.org](http://qvcdc.org) or call Melissa at 413-497-4403

**Are you 60 years or older?**

**Do you need help with grocery shopping, food bank delivery or pharmacy pick up?**

QV CDC Senior Outreach Program may be able to shop and deliver right to you.

**Call Carol at 413-497-4407**



# SMALL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT:



## D String Guitar Repair

Dave Dicks's career has followed a natural trajectory to success: first learning the guitar and banjo, then he got into teaching music and then 24 years fixing guitars in a music store, before opening his own repair shop. While working in a music store, Dave, whose father has a brilliant mechanical mind and taught him how things worked and how to repair them, started doing simple repairs that were not offered as current services.

In 2016 as the music store was changing hands, Dave decided to keep doing what he loved and what he was good at and opened "D String Guitar Repair" in Sturbridge. Dave started his business with a large loyal customer base and despite the challenges of COVID shutdown Dave's business is booming! Dave jokes that the influx in business has become the "Agony of Success" for D String Guitar Repair as Dave is loving the success his business is enjoying but wishes there was more time in the day!

Dave's wealth of knowledge and passion for his job have brought in new customers and kept longtime customers loyal. D String services include setups, electronic repairs, structural repairs and modifications of all fretted instruments: acoustic and electric guitars and basses, banjos, mandolins and ukuleles. Please visit D String Guitar Repair's website services page for more details: [www.Dstringrepair.com](http://www.Dstringrepair.com)

Dave does more than just run a successful business, Dave was a professional bluegrass musician but has recently retired from performing after 40 years and is now focusing on writing music in his free time. After a successful career performing, Dave shifted his attention to furthering his Lutherie and business skills. D String Guitar Repair brings together both the music and repair sides of Dave's experience, as he has a wide range of knowledge of the music industry, from an artist's perspective as well as a technicians. This combination helps Dave communicate well with other musicians and serve a wide variety of players. Being an advanced player, having touring experience, and a solid understanding of how stringed instruments are built and how they function, allows Dave to accurately diagnose problems, and find the correct solutions. One of the most important things to Dave in his business is "to make it easy, to serve the beginner, make it was so they don't get frustrated and give up". Dave's passion for music shows in every aspect of his job.

Dave first sought out the QVDC in 2021 after applying elsewhere for post pandemic grants to help small business get back on their feet and getting no response. Frustrated, Dave did research on local organizations that could help him. After seeing all the services offered on our website Dave contacted the QVDC.

The QVDC was able to get D String Repair a microenterprise grant. Dave says he "can't even say how much it helped to reset from the loss from COVID" and that he loves the "rapport and the ability to call in and be able to speak to the person that is helping you, to form a relationship with them."

Dave and his wife also participated in one of QVDC's programs: The Harrison & Diane Quirk Financial Fitness Club in 2021/2022. Dave and his wife wanted to learn "how to make the most of what we had money wise" and with the help of the match program were able to save for necessary repairs for their house. Dave says the program was "tremendous, simply great". He and his wife enjoyed the monthly classes and were excited to be a part of the program.

Dave is thankful for the difference the QVDC has made for him and his business and we at the QVDC thankful for amazing clients like Dave. And we wish you the best of luck in your continued "Agony of Success!"

**D STRING GUITAR REPAIR  
IS  
LOCATED ON ROUTE 20 IN  
STURBRIDGE**

**531 MAIN STREET  
FISKDALE, MA 01518**

**ALL VISITS AND REPAIRS BY  
APPOINTMENT**

**774-334-8006**

**DAVE@DSTRINGREPAIR.COM  
WWW.DSTRINGREPAIR.COM**

## Join Our Team!

### Loan Program Coordinator

The QVDC is looking for a team member to join our growing nonprofit organization. We help small businesses get the funding they need to start, stabilize and grow. Our work helps to revitalize local economies and create jobs. We are a certified financial development institution (CDFI).

#### Specific areas of responsibility for the Loan Program Coordinator position are:

- Outreach and Lead Generation
- Loan Application Development
- Portfolio Management

#### Requirements:

Bachelor's degree in business management, finance, community development or an aligned field. Years of relevant experience or self-employment may be substituted for a degree

Lending experience and formal credit training is a plus

Bilingual (English/Spanish) is a plus

Ideal candidate will be proficient in Microsoft Office, especially Word and Excel

Full job description is listed on our website: [www.qvcdc.org](http://www.qvcdc.org)

Send résumé and cover letter to: QVDC LPC Search 23 West Main Street, Suite #1 Ware, MA 01082