

Dream Big Innovation Center and 3 Black Cats Café and Cakery Media FAQ

1. What is the 3 Black Cats Café and Cakery?

The 3 Black Cats Café and Cakery is the first-of-its-kind in Brownsville – a “third place” for community members to eat, drink, gather, learn and inspire one another – and is one of the first examples of Dream Big turning entrepreneurial dreams of community members into reality. The café is owned and operated by the three Jimenez sisters of Brownsville.

2. What is the Dream Big Innovation Center and how does it work?

The Dream Big Innovation Center is a multi-function 5,000 square foot space on the top floor of the café that includes a conference room, open desk space, wifi, smart TVs and chalkboard-walls. It's a place for aspiring entrepreneurs to work, meet with mentors and develop new skills and, similar to WeWork, entrepreneurs - from within and outside Brownsville - can rent co-working space on a daily, weekly or yearly basis. There is an additional event space on the basement floor, open for community groups and private functions.

3. Where is the café/ center located?

The café and center are located at 3 Belmont Avenue, which lies within the historic Belmont business corridor of Brownsville.

4. When is the grand opening?

The café and center will be open June 18th.

5. Why did the Dream Big Foundation choose Brownsville?

Dream Big selected Brownsville, Brooklyn as our first community to receive impact investment because of the opportunities to support a historically challenged neighborhood; the community is filled with a vibrant and brilliant entrepreneurial community; and we believe, with a little support, our resources will empower and strengthen this community, as Brooklyn continues to quickly evolve.

6. Who are the mentors and how many are currently participating?

There are approximately 15 mentors at this time. Our goal is to pair an entrepreneur with a mentor from the same field as their business venture, thus our mentors' areas of expertise range from financial sector, marketing, food services, technology (gaming, mobile, apps), health care, etc.

7. How many entrepreneurs have you helped or are in the process of helping?

We are currently helping five entrepreneurs and are accepting applicants for additional Dream Big Entrepreneurs.

8. Who can use the café/ innovation center facilities?

Residents within and outside Brownsville are welcome to use the center facilities, including the innovation center and the event space. However at this time only Brownsville residents are qualified to become Dream Big Entrepreneurs (see below).

9. How can I apply to be a Dream Big Entrepreneur? How are they chosen? What do chosen entrepreneurs receive?

You can apply to be a Dream Big Entrepreneur via the application form on thedreambig.org website or by picking up a paper copy at the center. You must be a Brownsville resident, over the age of 18, with a scalable idea - and you must dream big! Entrepreneurs are chosen by a panel of judges, and will receive equity financing for their idea as well as mentoring, training and access to center workshops.

10. How can I get permission to use Dream Big content (images, video, text) in my publication?

Send an email with detailed information about the intended use, along with the text or images you are seeking to use, to efeigenbaum@liveperson.com.

11. Who should I contact for an interview or additional information?

Please contact Erica Feigenbaum at efeigenbaum@liveperson.com.