



BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Welcome to Equal Dollars Community Currency! And thank you for joining our “out of the box” efforts to strengthen the local economy of the Greater Philadelphia region. The idea of using a new kind of money may seem a little strange, but consider the many forms of “money” we already often use:

- Checks/Money Orders
- Credit Cards/Gift Cards
- Gift Certificates/Cards
- Coupons & Rebates
- Frequent Flyer Miles, etc.

Our community is comprised of businesses and individuals from the Greater Philadelphia Region that agree to exchange goods and services using Equal Dollars as the common unit of exchange. Active members make a conscious commitment to buy within the community first, thereby taking personal responsibility for the health and well being of our local economy, laying the foundation of a truly vibrant, thriving Greater Philadelphia region.

Equal Dollars Community Currency will not, and is not intended to, replace federal currency. But it can alleviate the need to solely rely on often-scarce federal dollars as a means to obtain goods and services to live. It is particularly important to note that Equal Dollars is a non-interest bearing currency; it does not create wealth but is rather designed to stimulate the exchange of goods and services within the community. Again, its use will help strengthen the Greater Philadelphia region’s economy, favoring locally-owned enterprises, local manufacturing, and local jobs, and reducing the region's dependence on an unpredictable global economy.

While each member determines what portion of =\$s they will accept for their goods and/or service, we encourage each member to accept **at least** 10% of asking price or value in Equal Dollars.

Our goal is to build the Equal Dollars Community with members like you and other diverse businesses so that you will be able to partially (and in some cases fully) pay for prescription co-payments, food including fresh fruit and vegetables, personal hygiene items, cleaning supplies, hair and nail salon services, barber services, etc.

Again, thank you for joining our efforts to strengthen our local economy!

Deneene C. Brockington, Coordinator
Equal Dollars Community Currency



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How does it work?

It's really simple. All you have to do is shop with businesses that accept the Equal Dollars Community Currency. You will be able to partially pay for goods and services with your Equal Dollars. In some cases a member business may accept 100% Equal Dollars.

Is using Equal Dollars legal?

Local currencies are legal and there are many of them throughout the United States. Like US dollars, they are a form of taxable income. The Federal Reserve and the Internal Revenue Service have no prohibitions on local currencies, as long as their value is fixed to the US dollar, the minimum denomination is worth at least \$1, and the bills do not look like federal money.--

"Legal Aspects of Local Currency," Chapter 7 from [Rethinking Our Centralized Monetary System: the Case for a System of Local Currencies](#), by Lewis D. Solomon, professor of law at George Washington University. See also [Foreword by Robert Swann & Chapter Notes](#). Copyright © 1996 by Lewis D. Solomon, published by Praeger Press. Used here with the kind permission of Professor Solomon and the [Greenwood Publishing Group, Inc.](#), Westport, CT.

How can I get Equal Dollars?

That's easy too! Just join the Equal Dollars Community! Sign up to become a member and get 50=\$s. The membership fee is \$10 US. Businesses pay \$25 US membership fee and get 125=\$s.

After I spend my 50=\$s, how do I get more?

There are several ways to replenish your =\$s

- 1) **COMMUNITY SERVICE!** Volunteer at a local community organization, church, neighborhood library, school, recreation center, community garden, block clean up, etc. and you will receive and =\$ stipend as a way of thanking you for your community service.
- 2) **Have gently used or never used items around your house or garage?** Take a photo and list them on the Treasure Chest, the Equal Dollars Community Currency on-line classifieds. Click here for more information about the Treasure Chest.

As a business, what do I have to do to accept Equal Dollars payments?

Join the Equal Dollars Community! Once you join, you will receive 125=\$s in your account along with materials that will help you trade in Equal Dollars, including signs, stickers and brochures. Additionally, you'll be listed on our on-line directory and we'll keep you informed of the latest Equal Dollars developments via updates and newsletters.

How would I accept Equal Dollars Community Currency in my business?

Simply accept a portion of your selling price in Equal Dollars. For example,

1. You've decided to accept 10% in =\$s. A =\$s member's purchase total is \$40.00. You would accept \$36.00 US and 4=\$s.

As a business, what do I do with the Equal Dollars that I earn?

1. Spend them with a fellow Equal Dollar business member. We are working every day to expand our network of merchants that accept Equal Dollars.
2. Give your employees a bonus using Equal Dollars!
3. Donate them to one of the community organizations listed in the directory and get a tax deduction.

How can I support Equal Dollars Community Currency?

Buy and spend with Equal Dollars! Become an active member today.



A Green Thing -- *Flowers, Balloons & Specialty Gift Baskets for All Occasions*

www.agreenthing.com

(215) 397-1290

Contact: Connie Powell Lee

Accepts 10% in =\$s

Action Enterprizes Moving & Hauling

www.actionenterprizes.com

(215) 424-9801

Contact: Jerome Baylor

Accepts 20% in =\$s

American Arborist, LLC – *Your Local Tree Service*

www.americanarboristllc.com

(215) 635-3750

Contact:

Accepts 100=\$s toward snow removal/ice management event; 75=\$s toward medium/large tree pruning; 200=\$s toward medium/large tree removal.

Bee Bee's Beads – *Handcrafted Jewelry*

(215) 477-0372

Contact: Brenda Williams

Accepts 10% in =\$s

Brother's Keepers Hope Improvement – *Car Detailing & Home Improvements*

(215) 951-0300 ext. 3535

Contact: Tashanna Hatten

Accepts 5=\$s for car detailing services of \$25 or more

Buckley Business Solutions – *Bookkeeping, Corporate Accounting & Notary Services*

www.buckleybizsolutions.com

(215) 279-3958

Contact: Terence Buckley

=\$s fees negotiated per job.

CSP Reprographics – *Digital Color Printing Services*

www.cspreprograhics.com

(215) 387-0606

Contact: George Stevens

Accepts up to 10% in =\$s

Gee's Tee's – *Black Heritage T-Shirts & Outerwear*
(215) 630-2045
Contact: Gerald James
Accepts 10% in =\$s.

Gifted Griot – *Professional Children's Storyteller*
giftedgriot@yahoo.com
Contact: Debra Johnson
Accepts up to 20% in =\$s

Love That Hand Bag – *Handbags & Other Accessories*
www.lovethathandbag.com
(877) 389-9735
Contact: Antoinette Saia
Accepts 10% in =\$s

Miniversity – *Affordable Training Courses for Human Service Agencies & Professionals*
www.rhd.org/Miniversity/MiniversityFall09.pdf
(215) 951-0300 ext. 3655
Contact: Traci Madison
Accepts 25% in =\$s.

Miss Pam's Kitchen – *Caterers*
www.misspamskitchen.com
(215) 844-2837
Contact: Deneene Brockington
Accepts up to 10% in =\$s

Naomi Geschwind – *Grant Writing & Public Relations*
(215) 467-6679
Accepts 100% =\$s for initial consultation (2hour limit)

Next Level Accessories – *Specializing in Brass & Sterling Silver*
(609) 481-8560
Contact: Sabryia Hadi
Accepts 10% in =\$s

Plumb & Square Contractors, LLC – *Home Remodeling*
www.plumbandsquarecontractors.com
(215) 739-4262 or (215) 990-5237
Accepts 10% of labor cost in =\$s

Quintex Janitorial Company

www.quintexjanitorialcompany.com

(215) 881-3247

Contact:

Accepts 10=\$s toward residential cleaning service.

Skillsbank Building Association – *Carpentry, Plumbing, Electric, Masonry*

tufani@verizon.net

(215) 760-5202

Contact: Charles “Shaka” Trotter

Accepts up to 10% in =\$s

SQA Pharmacy – *Service, Quality, Accurate Pharmacy Services*

4700 Wissahickon Avenue

Suite B – Room 108

Philadelphia, PA 19144

www.sqapharmacy.com

(215) 438-3308

Accepts up to 5=\$s toward per prescription co-payments

=\$s Treasure Chest – *Consignment & Gift Shop*

4700 Wissahickon Avenue, Suite 126

Philadelphia, PA 19144

www.equaldollars.org

(215) 951-0300 ext. 3027

Accepts 10 – 100% =\$s

NON-PROFIT & COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

SHARE Food Program

2900 Hunting Park Avenue

Philadelphia, PA 19129

(215) 223-2220

www.sharefoodprogram.org

Resources for Human Development

4700 Wissahickon Avenue, Suite 126

Philadelphia, PA 19144

(215) 951-0300

www.rhd.org