

In 2023, Matt Dean made the decision to open his own electrical contracting business. Matt has over 20 years of experience in the electrical industry. He holds a master electrician license in four states and a journeyman license in two. Matt is also a member of the Montana Renewable Energy Association and belongs to the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. Matt knew he had the qualifications but needed help with a business plan and cash flow projections to secure a

Matt reached out to the Bozeman SBDC Regional Director Kristi Gee for assistance. Kristi provided a business plan template, cash flow projections, and business attorney referrals. After reviewing all the documents, Matt was able to understand all of the details of his business before seeing a lender. Matt received a loan to purchase the necessary equipment to start his business.

By starting Big Sky Power and Solar, Matt provides Livingston with its sole union electrical contractor. Matt also assists individuals in the local workforce who want to learn the electrical trade by referring them to the local union. He promotes crossfunctional collaboration, driving apprentices, journeymen, and foremen to complete projects within strict time frames.

Matt now has more freedom and is able to choose projects that fit his schedule. He is the proud owner of one of the only union solar contracting businesses that specialize in solar power installation. Matt hopes to continue filling this need in his community while providing job opportunities in his field.