



Celebrating **Retail, Accommodations, Tourism and Entertainment**
by **Building Rural Innovations and Developing Growth Economies.**

The CREATE BRIDGES project is seeking Business Retention & Expansion program volunteers!

Retail and hospitality sectors provide jobs and business opportunities that often drive rural economies. Oklahoma State University is piloting CREATE BRIDGES, a program designed to strengthen those industries in Oklahoma.

As part of the pilot, CREATE BRIDGES is delivering a Business Retention & Expansion (BR&E) program for businesses in the retail and hospitality sectors. The following Oklahoma [state] counties are included: [list counties].

BR&E is a volunteer-driven process that includes confidential face-to-face interviews with local business owners or managers to gather information and assess opportunities and barriers to business growth. Through this community-based effort, actions and strategies will be developed to support and strengthen local businesses.

Volunteers are provided with training in a 2 hour session and volunteer recruitment will be on-going. BR&E volunteers working and/or living in the eight included counties are eligible to apply.

BR&E Training opportunities:

- [Date, Time, Location, Link to Register, etc.]

If you are interested in participating as a BR&E Interview Volunteer or if your business is interested in participating in a confidential interview, please contact [contact name and phone/email].