

<i>NBDC Organization Name</i>	Greater Auburn Gresham Development Corporation
<i>NBDC Category Type</i>	Place-Based Generalist
<i>Success Story Year</i>	2022
<i>Success Story Month</i>	April
<i>Business Name (As reported in ECM) or Business Corridor</i>	Greater Auburn Gresham Development Corporation
<i>Business Need/Issue or Business Corridor Initiative</i>	Business Expansion and Outreach
<i>In 250 words or less, please provide a narrative about helping your clients or members successfully start, maintain, or grow their business, implement a business corridor initiative, or resolve a business need or issue</i>	<p>One of the newest businesses on the 79th Street corridor is QT & J Collections LLC, located on 1000 W. 79th Street. This young African American young lady and her husband had several consultations before they found a location and agreed they had the capital to open a business that had been a dream since high school. Fortunately too, the business was successfully opened during the pandemic and continues to thrive. There are some slow days, the owner admits. It was during one of the slow periods that she set up a consultation to discuss ways to stay afloat. The pandemic has been an unprecedented time for all of the business owners, and the teams of generalists offering technical support. One very important question we've tried to work with businesses on, is answering what could you do to expand without or with a small amount of infused capital? During and April pop-in site visit, the owner came out the back and said, check this out, we've expanded to add customized t-shirts to our clothing line. This grew on the spot into adding other simple items to customize, calendars, cups etc. The thought was why have to go to another shop when you can customizations here too? We were extremely proud of planting just one seed to have businesses continue to think of how and what they would do to expand their businesses even in slow times. In this case, it created a entire new "collection" for QT & J!</p>
<i>Provide hyperlink(s) to article, web page, or social media post with additional details</i>	

(If applicable)

Insert relevant photo(s)/image(s) below (If applicable):