



**Katie Brandow  
in front of  
Bend City Hall**

*“We’ve worked with School of Enrichment for months on moving their childcare to a new location. Today, their owner, Katie Brandow, just picked up her final certificate of occupancy! This means maintaining ~50 childcare spaces and adding 20-30 new ones #inBend”*

-Ben Hemson, August 2019  
Bend Business Advocate  
City of Bend

## **CENTRAL OREGON SBDC SUCCESS STORY**

### **Katie Brandow, School of Enrichment**

<https://www.schoolofenrichment.com>

Katie Brandow founded the type of school she wanted her daughters to attend. Katie started her pre-school and extended day care center in 2007. Childcare providers started to become scarce in Central Oregon as the population increased rapidly, and in 2018 Katie signed up for COCC’s Small Business Management program to get help managing her growing business.

Katie recently completed the second year of the SBM program, during which she not only got a handle on her finances and operations, but also successfully navigated a major relocation. Working with SBM instructor and SBDC adviser, Jim Wilcox, Katie was able to find an appropriate property for expansion, make an acceptable offer, and plan for both the purchase as well as needed renovations. This summer, the City of Bend finalized a certificate of occupancy for Katie’s school in its brand new building, allowing her to add 20-30 new slots for local children. A win-win for both the business and the community!

Katie felt she received much-needed support from her SBM instructor during some very tight timelines. The City of Bend’s Business Advocate, Ben Hemson, expressed the tense deadlines best when he described the photo above as *“the school’s happy and relieved owner, Katie Brandow, picking up the COO this morning, an hour before her final inspection with the state!”*