

PTAC Link

PROCUREMENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER – CONNECTING BUYERS & SUPPLIERS

Progress Through Regional Cooperation In The Alleghenies

SAP&DC

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New Year, New Format & Look



We decided to take the monthly newsletter in a slightly different direction. You the reader will still get pertinent news related to government contracting, but the Southern Alleghenies PTAC has also added client success stories and information from or colleagues at the North Central and Northern Tier PTACs.

We hope you like our new look and direction! If you have ideas for improvement, please let us know in the [Contact Us](#) section at the bottom of this newsletter.

Gloria, Jill and James



Success Story

LOCAL Bakery Sees Growth...mmmmmmmmmm!

**By Gloria Brooks, SAP&DC
Government Procurement Specialist**

Something's baking in the Juniata section of Altoona. Bella Lucia, LLC., a local bakery, has found ways to expand their operations and sales by baking gluten-free pizzelles.

Maryann Cook started Bella Lucia in her kitchen in 2009 on a shoestring budget and an idea. She never dreamed her passion for baking would become a bakery manufacturing business but that is exactly what she has done.

In January 2018, Bella Lucia LLC celebrated their grand reopening with the purchase of the entire building at 724-728 North Fourth Avenue in Juniata. (See photo above of staff at ribbon-cutting).

With the expansion came renovations of the HVAC system which features a humidity control, added coolers and additional floor space. The expanded store front was also renovated and now carries gluten-free items, including their gluten-free flour and pie crusts, among other items. Of course, they also carry Bella's gluten-free Pizzelles. Flavors include Anise, Chocolate, Lemon Love, Saigon Cinnamon, and Chocolate Striped flavors.

Maryann combined her patience and hard work with support from the community and assistance from various agencies including Southern Alleghenies Planning & Development Commission Procurement & International Trade programs, ABCD Corp, JARI and various Penn State programs to accomplish the expansion. With the expansion, Bella Lucia now has the capability of producing 13,000 pizzelles each day and went from 4 employees in 2013 to 13 employees in 2017.

They have been working toward expanding their product line into the military commissaries with very strong interest from the Military and Deli & Bakery Services Inc. which covers commissaries in Pittsburgh, DC, and Maryland. Bella has also obtained the COSTARS 7 contract with assistance from the PTAC.

SAP&DC PTAC would like to say congratulations on your continued success!

[Visit Bella Lucia online](#)

About Us

The PTAC at SAP&DC is an economic development entity that bridges the gap between supplier and buyer in the government marketplace. The PTAC stands ready to support businesses in the central PA Alleghenies region in the pursuit to secure contracts with local, state and/or federal government agencies nationwide.

Due to the generous support of our Commonwealth and Federal funding partners, services provided by the PTAC are free of charge.

Whether you are an experienced contractor or new to the government marketplace, the PTAC will provide one-on-one counseling utilizing all of the program resources necessary to increase your share of contract awards.

Contact us today at The PTAC at SAP&DC to get started!
Email: ptac@sapdc.org
Phone: (814) 949-6500
Web: [PTAC @ SAP&DC](#)

 Forward to a Friend

STAY CONNECTED



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