

A Partner to Rural Small Business

Our mission is to actively partner with entrepreneurs to create growing businesses, thriving communities, and a diverse regional economy.

What makes us unique? **Business Financing + Advising**

We pair capital solutions with strategic business advising at no cost to the business owner to support small business growth and resilience. We ensure that talent, jobs, and wealth stay in the region to sustain vibrant communities.



BoomTown Brewery & Woodfire Grill

Eveleth, Hibbing & Duluth, MN

- Working Capital Loans
- Pandemic Relief
- Strategic Growth Advising

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Throughout the pandemic it has been invaluable knowing there are people I can call who I trust. They helped me understand and access relief available and continue to advise me as things change.

Jessica Leitz, Co-Owner of
Boomtown Brewery & Woodfire Grill



Ridgeline Manufacturing

Pillager, MN

- Working Capital Loans
- Gap Financing
- Sustainability Advising



Rudy's Bar & Grill

Aurora, MN

- Pandemic Relief
- Working Capital (SBA Microloan)
- Business Op. Advising



Lamppa Manufacturing

Tower, MN

- Quality Job Grant
- Growth Advising
- 4th Generation Family Business

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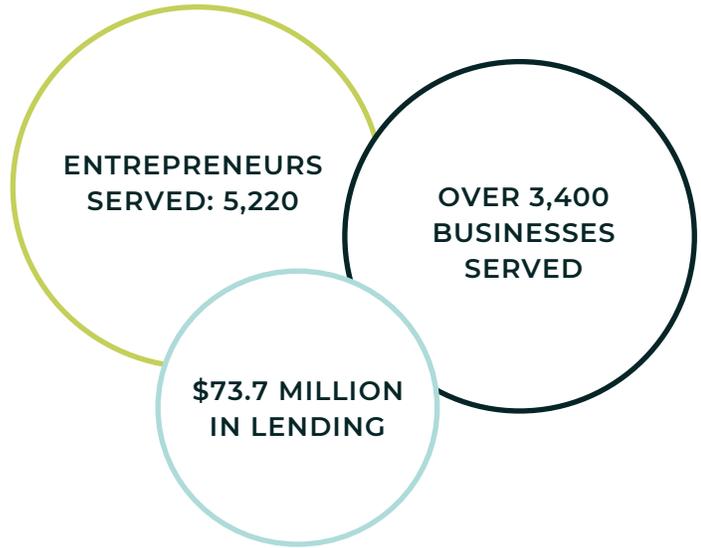
Scaling is super challenging and that's where becoming aware of and working with the resources that we have available like the Entrepreneur Fund, the SBA and IRRR has been very helpful in navigating these changes.”

Garrett Lamppa, CEO of Lamppa Manufacturing

Impact Milestones 2021-2023

The impact of our work over the past three years is a testament to the power of partnership, growth, and resilience. Guided by our strategic plan we worked to empower local entrepreneurs and businesses, leading to tangible outcomes that shaped our regional economy.

The figures below represent the many entrepreneurs we've assisted, the businesses we've nurtured, and the vibrant communities these enterprises are building. These numbers signify more than just milestones - they are stepping stones towards a more prosperous, diverse, and resilient regional economy.



80% OF OUR LENDING WAS FOR WORKING CAPITAL



14% WAS FOR REAL ESTATE



6% WAS FOR FIXED ASSETS

Creating Diverse Regional Economies



of our lending was to industries with higher growth potential including manufacturing, professional services or technology.



of our work was dedicated to small businesses looking to improve or grow.



of our work was towards businesses with revenues of \$1M or greater.

Creating Quality Jobs & Vibrant Communities

9,800 JOBS

Our lending helped businesses create or sustain 9,800 jobs across the region.

\$18.75/HOUR

Average wage provided surpassed living wage standards at \$18.75/hourly

OVER \$24/HOUR

Over 40% of our borrowers provide family sustaining wages over \$24/hour

Advancing Economic Justice



of clients identify as women



of clients live in a rural community



of clients identify as BIPOC