

# Rainier Valley Community Development Fund (RVCDF)

Investing in communities that are thriving and economically resilient, from Southeast Seattle to West Seattle to Ballard and beyond

#### **ABOUT US**

We are a self-sustaining, community-controlled financial institution (CDFI) dedicated to promoting community development and economic opportunity through responsible lending to people with low to moderate income.

#### WHAT IS MISSION DRIVEN LENDING?

- Provides financing, education and counseling to support those who have not been able to get credit.
- Supports job creation in low-income and underbanked communities.
- A solid partner in affordable housing initiatives.
- Creates a community win-win and opportunity for all small businesses.





We Provide Access to Capital RVCDF exists to provide products and services to people considered unbankable and/or with low to moderate income who have historically had difficulty accessing credit from traditional lending institutions



# We Help Build Financial Muscle & Generational Wealth

Lack of credit has made business ownership and difficult to impossible for prospective entrepreneurs. As a CDFI, the Fund is specifically focused on helping people who have had limited options to reach financial goals for their businesses and their families.



# We Support Growth of a Vibrant Community through Funding

The Fund is a community-controlled financial institution that preserves and strengthens cultural vibrancy, long-term livability, and economic opportunity in the communities we serve.



#### The Power of a CDFI

A community development financial institution (CDFI) is a type of financial organization that provides financial products and services to communities who have often do not have access to capital. A CDFI that has been certified by the U.S. Department of the Treasury has been recognized as a specialized financial institution serving low-income communities and can access support such as technical assistance and financial assistance awards. Products and services offered by a CDFI are just like those at a traditional bank. At RVCDF, we offer multiple lending options including working capital, lines of credit, term loans, nonprofit financing and commercial real estate loans.





# **Our History**



## 2000

#### **RVCDF FOUNDED**

The Fund began its work in Southeast Seattle as an outcome of Link light rail construction in Rainier Valley.

## 2014

#### **SELF-SUSTAINING**

RVCDF became self-sustaining, a significant milestone for every CDFI signifying that we cover our of costs through our financial services.

## 2023

#### **SUPPORTING LOCAL**

In 2023, 80% of our loans were to people from our local community and/or low-to-moderate income owned businesses.

### 2006

# FIRSTLENDING PROGRAMS

RVCDF established its loan program with \$1.1 M for affordable housing.

## 2017

#### **CERTIFIED CDFI**

RVCDF attained its status as a certified CDFI from the U.S. Treasury Department. This certification allows access to funds that create funding for small businesses, affordable housing and non-profit initiatives in the Rainier Valley.

# 2025

#### **LOOKING AHEAD**

With over \$100 million in loans, stellar portfolio management with a very low default rate and high client satisfaction, RVCDF is poised for growth.

# More Communities, More Services

As we expand beyond southeast Seattle to West Seattle and Ballard, the Fund services include:

- 1. Targeted Loans: Deployment of small business loans to unbankable business owners and low-to-moderate income borrowers
- 2. **Business Hub:** Establishment of small business hubs that deliver technical assistance, business strategy and business incubation to community entrepreneurs.
- 3. **Mitigation Funds:** Provide access to mitigation funds for qualified local businesses who are especially impacted by light rail construction

# **A Proven Record of Success**

RVCDF has a track record of supporting sustained economic development through small business loans that establish new businesses and help existing businesses grow. Following years of analysis and community input, Sound Transit Link light rail is expanding to West Seattle and to Ballard. RVCDF is familiar with planning for, living through, and emerging successfully following the construction of Link light rail. Just as Link light rail created new connections for Rainier Valley, it is the communities of West Seattle and Ballard that will benefit from - and endure – the impacts of a major infrastructure project. RVCDF offers lending options for those who have limited access to capital to support your specific financing needs.

