



Minnesota Initiative Foundations: 30 Years of Economic Development Impact

Since our inception in 1986, the six Minnesota Initiative Foundations have made a significant impact on Minnesota's economy through our investments in business start-up, expansion, recruitment, retention, and ownership succession projects. From Main Street to the industrial park, our innovative business finance programs have helped create or retain **over 45,000 jobs** and leverage over **\$1.3 billion** in additional public and private capital.

Collaboration is key to our business model. We partner with local banks and credit unions, equity investors, and local/regional/state economic development organizations to provide the additional capital needed. We offer **innovative financing solutions** such as direct loans, equity investments, loan guarantees, loan participations, microloans, and other flexible-term products to help fill gaps and be a **catalyst and partner** for projects to happen. In addition, our business financing programs complement our wide array of community development initiatives including leadership development, community engagement, nonprofit capacity building, grantmaking, philanthropy, and early childhood development.

The **State of Minnesota** has been a **key partner** in increasing our capacity to spur economic vitality, support job creation/retention, and leverage private investment through our business finance programs. The State of Minnesota has authorized three funding allocations per initiative foundation: \$1 million in 1987; \$1 million in 1993; and \$475,000 in 2014. We also engage with the State of Minnesota through programs such as the State Small Business Credit Initiative, and by partnering on projects that utilize the Minnesota Investment Fund. This has proven to be an **exemplary public-private partnership**, one that has yielded an outstanding **return on investment**.

Our businesses are making **investments in talent, innovation, facilities, and equipment**, and they are seizing opportunities in a **global marketplace**. Capital is needed for ownership **succession** projects to retain jobs in our communities. With our state's vast diverse opportunities in sectors such as manufacturing, bioscience, renewable energy, food and agribusiness, technology, mining, and natural resources, Greater Minnesota companies are leveraging **local and regional assets** and creating **clusters of innovation** in our communities and regions. These opportunities require us to offer larger loans/investments and **unique structures**. As we reflect back on our first **30 years of impact**, the State of Minnesota can be very proud of its investments in the Minnesota Initiative Foundations!

*Minnesota Initiative Foundations business finance **impact** from inception (1986) through June 30, 2015*

- **\$240.3 million** in financing through **4,426** loans and investments
- **44,979 jobs** created or retained
- **\$1.33 billion** in additional private and public capital leveraged