THE DENVER SMALL BUSINESS INVESTMENT FUND

WHAT WE HEARD FROM THE COMMUNITY

- There is a need for back-office training and support for Denver small businesses.
- Creative and customized financing is almost nonexistent; this fund has the opportunity to help businesses receive beneficial funding options paired with supportive services.
- A gap analysis would be beneficial to inform the type of funding, technical assistance, and/or professional services needed.

WHO ARE WE FUNDING?

- A variety of businesses and entrepreneurs for which this type of funding will level the playing field in Denver.
- Though we anticipate any small business within a certain criteria to apply, the investment products and services should be created with BIPOC- and women-owned or otherwise historically under-resourced businesses and business sectors in mind.
- Businesses and entrepreneurs must be located within the City & County of Denver with potential for more preference for those located in Denver’s under-resourced neighborhoods.

WHAT MAKES A GREAT PROPOSAL?

- Creative and customized solutions that ensure fair and appropriate capital is dispersed to Denver small businesses and entrepreneurs.
- Flexible lending and investment terms which may include elements such as below-market interest rates, flexible repayment, higher risk portfolios, etc.
- Culturally-relevant business supportive and professional services such as technical assistance, marketing and outreach, translation services, business professional services, and beyond.

It is not sustainable to continue teaching small business owners to 'be the CFO'.
-Roundtable Participant

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