The mission of the Idaho-Nevada CDFI is to increase access to capital by small businesses and community development organizations engaged in economic development and affordable housing, halt community deterioration, and create jobs throughout the economically disadvantaged areas of the western United States. The Idaho-Nevada CDFI was established in 1999 to provide financing to small business ventures and affordable housing projects, and, through its offices in Pocatello and Boise, focuses on serving the economically disadvantaged areas of Idaho and Nevada. The organization has worked extensively in Las Vegas and Reno, where rapid population growth and rising real estate prices have created a strong demand for affordable housing. Its products and services include small business loans, affordable housing loans for the development of land, and a variety of housing projects.

Success Story: T&L Cedar Lawn Furniture, Buhl, ID

In 2002, the lease on T&L’s building was set to expire and the company’s future was in doubt. A $30,300 loan from the Idaho-Nevada CDFI and additional financing from Key Bank enabled owners Tom and Leasa Speck to purchase the property. T&L’s annual sales grew from $200,000 in 2002 to $710,000 in 2007, and the company remains one of the few sources of manufacturing jobs in the agricultural region. “At first, Key Bank was skeptical about giving us the real estate loan. If it hadn’t been for the CDFI, it probably wouldn’t have happened,” Tom Speck said.