Kentucky Highlands Investment Corporation’s (KHIC) mission is to provide and retain employment opportunities in southeast Kentucky through sound investment and management assistance. Since its founding in 1968, KHIC has been a leader in the field of community development venture capital investing. It originally formed to serve a nine county region of southeast Kentucky by identifying, developing, and providing access to capital to promising entrepreneurs but has expanded to other areas. The organization offers a variety of business loan programs to complement its equity investments, and has expanded its investment area. KHIC’s products include microenterprise loans, working capital lines of credit, USDA and SBA guaranteed loans, and other short and long term financing and operational assistance. KHIC is a member of the Kentucky Innovation Network and provides entrepreneurship training opportunities for small businesses. KHIC is a Goldman Sachs Capital Partner and participates in the Goldman Sachs 10KSB Program.

Success Story: Superior Printing & Publishing Co.

Entrepreneurs in rural areas typically face larger obstacles than their urban counterparts because funding, technical assistance and advising are scarce. But one family business in Letcher County has accessed capital to buy state-of-the-art equipment, benefited from ongoing training and participated in the Goldman Sachs’ 10,000 Small Businesses. As a result of these unprecedented opportunities and hard work, Superior Printing & Publishing Co. has more than doubled the size of its business in the last six years. The Whitakers attended seminars and business training offered by the Kentucky Highlands Innovation Center (KIHC), which poised them to take part in a national program at Babson College through Goldman Sachs’ 10,000 Small Businesses.