Community First Fund is central Pennsylvania’s premier economic development organization. For more than 20 years, Community First Fund has focused on advancing economic and social justice for disenfranchised individuals, low-wealth individuals, and communities. With offices in Lancaster, York, Reading, and Harrisburg, Community First Fund serves 13 counties which more than four million people call home. Its products and services produce tangible results and measurable change, keeping small cities sustainable, neighborhoods vibrant and safe, and individuals and families in the economic mainstream. Community First Fund provides small business, commercial, and affordable housing loans, as well as technical assistance and educational opportunities.

Success Story: Roxy’s Café, Harrisburg, PA

When Armando Martinez-Gonzalez left Mexico as a teenager, he never dreamed that his future would land him near the seat of power in Harrisburg. After working for a few years at Roxy’s Café, located at the foot of the Capitol steps, he was given the opportunity to purchase the popular breakfast and lunch dining spot. Community First Fund was there to support Armando and his goal. Working closely alongside our loan officers, Armando received a small business loan of $25,000, which gave him the necessary means to purchase the business. With his newfound success, Armando recently took out another loan with Community First Fund. With this loan, he plans to restore the four vacant apartments in his building into affordable housing in downtown Harrisburg. It is incredible to see Armando’s success and the ripple effect it creates in the community.

Financial and Social Impact

- Loans investments made: 1,500+ totaling more than $145MM
- Clients served: 10,000+
- Jobs created or retained: 6,485
- Housing units financed: 1,210 in low-income communities
- 80% of loans benefit low income communities and people
- 46% of loans made to Persons of Color
- 37% of loans made to women business owners
- 97% of loans successfully repaid

Contact

51 South Duke Street, Suite 400
P.O. Box 524
Lancaster, PA 17608-0524

P: 717.393.2351
F: 717.393.1757