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HOPE ENTERPRISE CORPORATION

Financial and Social Impact

- Financing generated: \$2 billion
- People helped: 1 million

HOPE (Hope Enterprise Corporation and Hope Credit Union) is a community development financial institution, community development intermediary and policy institute that provides affordable financial services; leverages private, public and philanthropic resources; and engages in policy analysis in order to fulfill its mission of strengthening communities, building assets, and improving lives in economically distressed parts of the Mid South. Since 1994, HOPE has generated over \$2 billion in financing and related services for the unbanked and underbanked, entrepreneurs, homeowners, nonprofit organizations, health care providers and other community development purposes. Collectively, these projects have benefitted more than 1 million individuals throughout Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee.

Success Story: Sweet Stuff Bakery, Biloxi, MS

When the owner of Sweet Stuff bakery in Biloxi, Mississippi, offered employees Renee Brown and Stephanie Bock the chance to buy the bakery, the two women saw it as a golden opportunity to become small business owners. There was just one catch: Brown and Bock had to come up with the financing. But when Brown and Bock turned to Hope Credit Union for a small business loan, they found that their knowledge and their "want to do" was more than enough. Today, Brown and Bock are the proud owners of Sweet Stuff. The women employ nine individuals, many of them women who are able to support their families thanks to Brown and Bock's determination and the help they received from HOPE.

Contact

4 Old River Place
Jackson, MS 39202

P: 601.944.9320

E: Shelia.Byrd@hope-ec.org

