The Cooperative Fund of New England (CFNE) was founded in 1975 by co-op activists and social investors to provide financial and technical assistance to food cooperatives. Since then, the organization has expanded its focus, offering development loans and technical assistance to a wide range of co-ops and nonprofit groups that share CFNE’s vision of economic justice for all through thriving cooperative enterprise.

CFNE serves New England with staff working from remote offices across the region.

Financial and Social Impact

Funded to date:
- Over 1,000 loans totaling over $65 million
- Over 15,000 jobs
- Over 6,900 housing units

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Success Story: A Yard and A Half, Waltham, MA

A Yard and A Half is a minority and immigrant worker-cooperative landscaping company; it converted to a co-op upon the retirement of the founder. A $450,000 loan from CFNE enabled the employees of this long-standing business to become worker-owners, preserving 20 quality jobs and maintaining high standards of social and environmental justice. As Carolyn Edsell-Vetter, a member of the A Yard and A Half Landscaping Cooperative said, “CFNE’s line of credit allowed us to stabilize cash flow and have an amazingly strong first year post-conversion — our biggest in the company’s 27 year history!”