NIMIIPUU COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND

The Nimiipuu Community Development Fund (NCDF), a certified Native Community Development Financial Institution, provides financial opportunities to stimulate economic development on and near the Nez Perce Indian reservation. We are a loan fund that provides technical support and business counseling, financing resources, and community-based development services to Nez Perce Tribal members and community members residing on the Nez Perce Reservation and surrounding areas in Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. We promote self-sufficiency and self-determination to enhance the well-being of community members and increase economic activity in the Nimiipuu target market. By promoting economic growth, we also embrace our cultural values and traditions.

Success Story – Tiny Tots Learning Center, Idaho

The Penney family opened Tiny Tots Learning Center as an at-home location in October 2014. The NCDF team worked to help the business develop policies, obtain licensing, participate in the USDA nutrition program, and obtain Idaho Stars certification. The team’s diverse strengths helped the Penneys manage the demands of running a new daycare facility in a small town. After working with the local Small Business Development Center (SBDC) on a business plan, Bobbie Penney presented it to the NCDF startup business loan product. Since the Penneys moved their business outside their home, Tiny Tots Learning Center has expanded to a second childcare center. Their capacity has increased, as has their revenue. The Penneys are proud of accomplishing their goal of creating a positive learning environment for young children every day.

“NCDF helped us reach our goal to help improve childcare services in rural communities, primarily on the Nez Perce Reservation. Without the help of NCDF we would not have been able to build and expand our business,” the Penneys said.