NORTHSIDE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND

The Northside Community Development Fund (NSCDF) is a neighborhood-focused community loan fund serving fourteen neighborhoods on Pittsburgh’s Northside. We make the Northside a thriving community for all by promoting economic opportunity and community revitalization. We help underserved populations in the fourteen neighborhoods of the Northside by providing capital to spur business and job growth, the creation of affordable housing, and the redevelopment of Northside neighborhoods. All of these activities must include opportunities for all members of the community, including racial and ethnic minorities and women.

Success Story – Cafe on the Corner, Inc., Pittsburgh, PA

Lateresa Blackwell and her husband, Michael, have lived in the Northside community more than twenty-five years. They opened Cafe on the Corner and obtained a loan from NSCDF to purchase the building and expand their space. The “new home for southern cooking” is a community gathering place. “It’s the community’s café,” according to the Blackwells.

“We are learning patience, perseverance, and we are meeting a lot of amazing people who have taught us a lot about entrepreneurship,” said Lateresa Blackwell. “We are so grateful for the Northside Community Development Fund and we want to thank that organization for trusting and believing in our mission.”

The Blackwells also founded Kitchen of Grace, a sixteen-week workforce development program that steers youth into successful opportunities post-high school. “We help our young people rise up out of the ashes and into opportunity,” said Michael Blackwell.