

# WSCN Celebrates 10 Years

*We are pleased to share our accomplishments through the end of 2021.  
As we enter our second decade, we are poised to grow our service to the small business community.*

## Achievements 2012 - 2021:

**\$22** million funds deployed

**1,600**  
jobs  
created/retained

**157** SMALL BUSINESS  
LOANS SUPPORTED

**\$105** million  
capital leveraged  
for small businesses

**78%** of businesses have 10 < employees • **67%** of projects in small towns and rural areas  
**23%** women or minority owned • **24%** start ups

### Our services are now offered statewide

WSCN administers the Rural Development Fund that provides financing across Wyoming to businesses economically impacted by the coronavirus pandemic.

This program was launched thanks to a \$4 million grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA) CARES Act Recovery Assistance program and a \$1 million match from the Wyoming Smart Capital Network.



### We are part of the SBA Community Navigator Pilot Program

WSCN is one of the six “spoke” organizations working collaboratively under guidance of the Wyoming Small Business Development Center (SBDC) to reduce barriers faced by small businesses, including those owned by disadvantaged groups such as veterans, women and those from rural communities and communities of color. Through this [program](#), WSCN aims to increase the number of lenders able to finance new clients by utilizing our credit support programs, and increase the familiarity with bank financing options among small business owners and the organizations that serve them in the target communities.



### Our network of lenders has grown

We appreciate the work of the [17 local](#) banks who partner with us to bring financing to Wyoming’s small businesses. Bankers work within their communities to identify businesses who merit support and come to us to help borrowers meet credit requirements. Please contact us to join our network of lenders making a difference for Wyoming small businesses.



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## *We continue to be inspired by the entrepreneurs we support*

In 2021, we began publishing spotlights of the small businesses growing and thriving thanks to financing accessed with support of WSCN. Here are stories that highlight a few of the businesses keeping small towns vibrant across Wyoming.



### ***Building Sweet Dreams***

The town of Casper, Wyoming is treated to a taste of the Middle East at Sweet Zoey's Mediterranean Cafe. [Read more](#)



### ***Bringing a Grocery Store to Hanna, WY***

Hanna is a small town and it had no grocery store. Kyle and Amelia Young set out to change that. [Read more](#)



### ***Building a space for dance and celebration in Gillette, WY***

As Live 2 Dance enters its 15th dance season, it is embarking on a new phase of growth in its own building. [Read more](#)



### ***Gruner Brothers Craft Beer – The Spirit of Wyoming***

The two-brother team turned their entrepreneurial skill and passion to work building a local brewery. [Read more](#)

**Special thanks  
to our founding  
municipal partners**

**WSCN was launched in 2012 with funding from the U.S. Treasury's State Small Business Initiative (SSBCI) through a consortium of municipalities that included Laramie, Casper, Cheyenne, Cody, Douglas, Edgerton, Gillette, Green River, Hanna, Hartville, Midwest, Pine Bluffs, Powell, Rawlins, Rock Springs, Sundance and Wheatland.**

## ***Progress in 2021***

In 2021, the WSCN and the Rural Development Fund supported 22 loans in partnership with nine regional banks. The \$6.5 million from WSCN supported loans totaling \$32.8 million. As a result of this financing, 238 jobs were created or retained. Of the 22 participations in 2021: 6 supported a startup, 12 supported a woman/minority owned business and 17 support companies with 10 or fewer employees. The general industry mix of these companies includes hospitality, service, healthcare, fitness, energy, construction, retail, manufacturing and processing.

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