

INVESTING IN BARRY

Invest Barry Framework Building Strong Communities

Invest Barry is an investment framework, focusing on making a difference in Barry County, by fostering an economy that is diverse, vital, and innovative. Local economic vitality is the driving force of Barry Community Foundation Invest Barry committee. "Our mission is to build strong businesses and business districts and to create family-sustaining jobs with living wages and benefits for residents," explains Bonnie Gettys, President and CEO of Barry Community Foundation.



Middletown's Broken Smoker received a loan to provide an improved dining experience, helping to attract more customers to the downtown community.

The Impact

Seeking Investment Opportunities

A portion of the BCF investment portfolio utilizes 7% of \$35,000,000 which is loaned and repaid providing positive impact on our communities through low-cost loans that bolster the economy. The interest payments are allocated through the earnings our overall investment portfolio enjoys. While that is all beneficial, impact investments return far more than financial returns. Growing businesses by infusing capital into our community vs investing in the stock market has a tangible local impact. Much like shopping, giving and living local, we invest locally. Currently 13 businesses have affordable loans helping them expand and compete, which provides local products, services, and jobs to our community. This approach promotes inclusion and equity for all residents, businesses, and organizations through equitable access to capital.

The Focus

The Process provides Results

Every investment needs to help to create a compassionate social, economic, and political environment where people have full opportunities to meet basic needs for themselves and their families (specifically housing,) to build assets, and to advance themselves. The committee analyses the impact on one or many of the 7 areas the community foundation prioritizes for building a healthy community: Education, Economy, Basic Needs, Environment, Neighborhoods, Arts & Culture, and Health & Wellness



Nashville Flats loan converts an old elementary school into an affordable apartment building, providing workforce housing.

Keep it Local

The Heart of Downtown Delton

Locally owned coffee shops are a gathering places for the community, bringing people together over a shared love of coffee and good food. By supporting local coffee shops, it helps to build and sustain a vibrant, connected community. At a recent BCF Board of Directors meeting Kristina Harrington, co-owner of Delton's Local Grind

Coffeehouse, gave a virtual walk-thru of their renovations and improvements. New siding, lights, canopy, and gutters are just a few features of the project to expand and enhance the community. "This was made possible with a loan from the Invest Barry advisory committee and the BCF Board," explains Harrington. (pictured right)



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