



NCIF
NATURAL CAPITAL INVESTMENT FUND



2016 Impact Report

NCIF supports entrepreneurs in underserved central Appalachian and Southeastern communities who create jobs by growing environmentally responsible businesses and providing vital community services. Our goal? Build resilient, thriving communities with diverse economies, strong local food systems, and healthy natural resources and residents. We do this by providing business advisory services and loans to companies and nonprofits who can't access traditional financing. In 2016, we made a record \$8.41 million in loans, 82 percent to economically distressed communities. NCIF launched new strategic initiatives to serve more minority borrowers and help coal-impacted communities transition to a more diversified economy.

We are grateful for the funders and volunteers who support NCIF's work. And we're proud to share the accomplishments of the businesses we work with, who are doing more than just meeting their bottom line—they are making a positive impact.

—Marten Jenkins
CEO, Natural Capital Investment Fund

IMPACT SUMMARY	2016	2001-2016
Jobs created/retained by active portfolio companies and farms	705	3,886
Loans	\$8.41 M	\$34.13 M
Companies funded	35	208
Hours of advisory services	3,009	17,111
Advisory services clients	150	924



www.ncifund.org

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How do you build strong, healthy communities?

FOSTER INNOVATION

Across southern West Virginia, communities who depended on coal are struggling to bounce back. The opportunity? Cultivate entrepreneurs who harness the region's natural beauty to create jobs and improve the quality of life in coal-impacted communities. More than 40,000 off-road enthusiasts come to southern West Virginia annually to ride the 600+ miles of trails in the Hatfield-McCoy Trail System, but find lodging and other amenities in short supply.

We are partnering with the Hatfield-McCoy Regional Recreation Authority on the **Southern West Virginia Tourism Initiative** to provide capital and business advisory services to growing businesses that fill those gaps. Over time, we aim to build an entrepreneurial culture and burgeoning businesses employing hundreds in the outdoor recreation, tourism and equipment sectors.



CREATE A HEALTHY LOCAL FOOD SYSTEM

Access to healthy food is the bedrock of a resilient community. We provide financing and coaching to businesses from field to fork to support access to local, sustainably-raised and grown food, and the economic boost that comes with it.

Family-owned **Sickler Farm** supplies restaurants, grocery stores and families in Moatsville, West Virginia, with fresh, local produce. Our micro-loan for a wood-fired boiler helped them heat their greenhouses more efficiently and extend their growing season.

NCIF borrower **Fullsteam Brewery** not only makes great beer. The company is also a leader in the Durham, North Carolina Living Wage Project (providing 25 jobs) and a leader in local sourcing: over 17 tons of local grains, fruit and nuts in 2016 were used in Fullsteam's ales and porters.



SUPPORT DIVERSITY

Diversity is as important in communities as it is in nature. Through our **Farmers of Color Initiative**, we are committed to providing access to capital and business advisory services to minority-owned businesses and farmers.

Earthseed Land Cooperative supports the collective health, wealth and environmental sustainability of diverse communities through creative stewardship of farmland and forests near Durham, North Carolina. In 2016, NCIF teamed with Triangle Land Conservancy to help Earthseed finance and permanently conserve 33 acres of land. The cooperative can now host outdoor education classes and weddings, incubate a horticulture nursery, small businesses and niche farms, and serve as a unique community resource for people of color in the area.

DELIVER VITAL COMMUNITY SERVICES

Doctors, day cares and schools keep a community functioning. While not NCIF's typical "green" borrowers, they provide the foundation on which communities can thrive.

Moore Vision Center is Boone County, West Virginia's only full-time eye care center. In a rural community with high rates of systemic diseases such as diabetes, access to optometry is critical for early detection and quality treatment. When Dr. Marty Moore needed help strengthening his business in a tough economic climate, he came to NCIF and the Center for Rural Health Development for financing to continue this important health care service to Boone County and surrounding communities.



CATALYZE CLEAN ENERGY

Clean energy and energy efficiency have multiple benefits for communities. They are good for the environment, increase business profitability and create skilled job opportunities.

Through 2016, our **Energy Efficient Enterprise Initiative** helped small businesses and farms with 62 energy audits and 39 loans for energy efficiency and renewable energy.

NCIF's 2016 loan helped Asheville, North Carolina-based solar installer **SolFarm Solar Company** double in size, adding employees and equipment to meet the growing demand for affordable solar energy in the Carolinas and Tennessee.

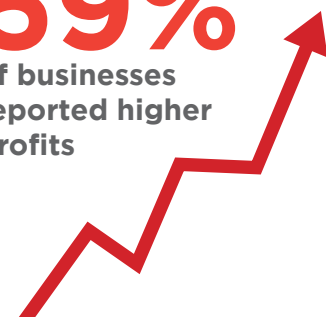


360,000
local apples purchased,
Hawk Knob Cidery,
Lewisburg, WV



100%
wood fiber utilized,
Powell Valley Millwork,
Clay City, KY

59%
of businesses
reported higher
profits



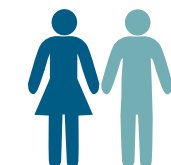
10.5 M LBS
of shingles recycled,
Griffin Waste Services,
Asheville, NC



Certified
as a B Corp and Living Wage
Employer, Eastern Carolina Organics,
Durham, NC



81.8%
loans in economically
distressed communities



30.5%
loans to women &
minority borrowers

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For a complete list of NCIF funders, please visit our website at ncifund.org.

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INVEST WITH US

NCIF offers investors the unique opportunity to back companies that create jobs and benefit the environment in underserved communities. By growing our pool of capital, investors can help mission-driven entrepreneurs achieve economic and environmental success.

NCIF has funded over 200 businesses and nonprofit enterprises while maintaining low loss rates. We credit this success to our rigorous underwriting process and the technical support we provide to our borrowers. We maintain a AA+3 rating from AERIS, a third-party auditor of community development financial institutions.

To inquire about investments in Natural Capital Investment Fund, contact Marten Jenkins, CEO, at 304-876-2815, ext. 207.



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