ACCESS CDFI

ACCESS CAPITAL. ACHIEVE YOUR POTENTIAL.

Impact Report 2025

BUILDING OPPORTUNITY. FINANCING GROWTH.

Nevada

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1 BREAKING BARRIERS

EXPANDING ACCESS TO CAPITAL AND OPPORTUNITIES

As we reflect on the past year, Access CDFI continues to advance its mission of expanding access to capital and opportunity for underserved entrepreneurs across Nevada.

Small businesses remain the backbone of local economies, yet many still face barriers when seeking traditional financing.

Access CDFI works to close that gap by providing flexible capital, technical assistance, and long-term partnership to entrepreneurs who are building businesses and strengthening communities.

In 2025, our work continued to grow through new lending programs, statewide technical assistance initiatives, and strategic partnerships designed to help entrepreneurs start, stabilize, and expand their businesses.

Through a combination of lending, coaching, and ecosystem partnerships, Access CDFI is helping Nevada businesses build sustainable futures while contributing to stronger and more resilient communities.

Through December 2025

Received over
$45 million
in loan requests

Disbursed over
$11 million
in loan funds

Supported over
1,500 small businesses
through loans and business support services

74% minority-owned
businesses served

57% women-owned
businesses served

These numbers represent more than financial transactions. They represent entrepreneurs gaining the resources needed to start businesses, expand operations, and create opportunities in their communities.

2 PROGRAMS & OUTREACH

NEVADA BUSINESS EXPANSION FUND

Access CDFI partnered with the Nevada Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED) to launch the Nevada Business Expansion Fund, a statewide revolving loan fund designed to increase access to capital for under-resourced entrepreneurs.

Initially capitalized with $6 million, Access CDFI leveraged additional investment to grow the fund to $11 million, allowing more Nevada businesses to access the capital needed to expand operations, hire employees, and pursue new market opportunities.

The fund continues to serve as a key financing vehicle for businesses seeking growth capital that may not be available through traditional lending channels.

QUALITY JOBS FUND

The Nevada Business Expansion Fund received additional investment from the Quality Jobs Fund, strengthening Access CDFI's ability to support businesses that create high-quality employment opportunities.

This investment allows Access CDFI to enhance internal systems, expand technical assistance services, and support entrepreneurs in developing business strategies that lead to sustainable growth and job creation.

By connecting businesses with both capital and strategic guidance, the Fund helps entrepreneurs strengthen operations while creating meaningful employment opportunities in their communities.

IMPACT QUALIFIED EQUITY INVESTMENT FUND

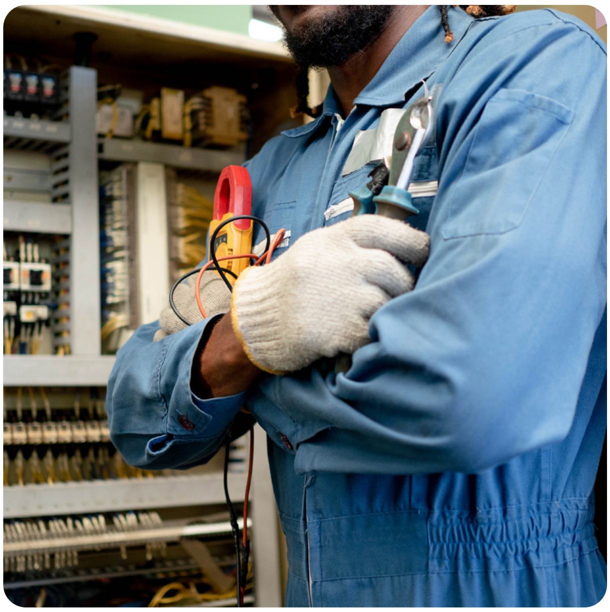
In October 2024, Access CDFI received a $5 million allocation for insurance premium tax credits, enabling the creation of the Impact Qualified Equity Investment Fund.

This fund allows Access CDFI to provide long-term equity investments and low-interest financing to Nevada businesses pursuing transformational growth opportunities.

Two projects highlight how this capital is being deployed:

G3 Electrical

Access CDFI supported G3 Electrical with a catalytic investment that enabled it to transition from leasing its commercial space to owning its facility. This transition represents a significant step toward long-term business stability and asset building.



1150 West Owens Development

Access CDFI supported the development of a new commercial project located at 1150 West Owens Avenue in Las Vegas' Historic Westside. This project will transform underutilized land into a multi-use space designed to support entrepreneurship and community development.

These investments demonstrate how Access CDFI can deploy flexible capital solutions to support both business growth and community development.

3 PROGRAMS SUPPORTING ENTREPRENEURS

NEVADA CAPITAL READINESS PROGRAM

Access CDFI was selected as one of only 43 organizations nationwide to receive funding through the Minority Business Development Agency's Capital Readiness Program.

This statewide initiative supports entrepreneurs at different stages of business development through two distinct pathways.

The Incubator Path helps early-stage entrepreneurs establish strong business foundations and refine their business models. The Accelerator Path supports established businesses seeking to scale operations and pursue new opportunities.

2025 Program Activity

around 800 **businesses served** through the program

more than 100 **businesses** received intensive one-on-one mentorship

117 **virtual and in-person workshops** conducted statewide

$3.5 million **in aggregate revenue growth** or capital raised by participating businesses

Through structured training, mentorship, and targeted technical assistance, the program helps Nevada entrepreneurs become better prepared to access capital and grow sustainably.

nvcapitalreadiness.org

ANTHEM LOAN FUND

The Anthem Loan Fund is a partnership between Access CDFI and the Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield Foundation designed to expand access to affordable capital for businesses and nonprofit organizations working to improve community health outcomes.

The fund supports organizations addressing critical needs such as:

- **Behavioral health services**
- **Food access initiatives**
- **Language access services**

Loan products are designed with flexible terms that allow mission-driven organizations to invest in programs and services that strengthen community health and well-being.

Click here for more information about the program:

Anthem Loan Fund

Download Fact Sheet

4 CHILD CARE BUSINESS SUPPORT

Access CDFI continues to play a leading role in strengthening Nevada's child care infrastructure by supporting providers through technical assistance, research, and innovative financing models.

In 2025, ACCESS CDFI's child care team delivered transformative results - expanding provider capacity, publishing statewide research, and scaling the CARE NV program. These efforts established the organization as a national thought leader in child care finance and policy. The following sections detail the primary highlights of these initiatives.

Barbara's Babies Childcare & More, LLC

2025 HIGHLIGHTS

624+ **hours** of technical assistance delivered to providers

18 **active providers** participating in the CARE NV program

$153K **in startup grants deployed**

$91K **invested** in educational supplies and learning materials

9 providers **successfully completed licensing requirements**, including fire inspections, health inspections, and insurance approvals.

The Child Care team supported providers with licensing preparation, business formation, and operational planning, helping many transition to stronger and more sustainable business models.

> To date, the CARE NV program has increased licensed child care capacity in Southern Nevada by 216 seats, creating greater accessibility for families who need care."

RESEARCH AND NATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Access CDFI also published a landmark statewide research report titled:
Nevada Child Care Facilities:
Cost Model Analysis and Revenue Plan

Developed over two years in partnership with The Children's Cabinet, the report provides the first comprehensive roadmap for expanding child care infrastructure across Nevada.

The findings have gained national attention, and the Access child care team presented their work in Washington, D.C. as part of the Early Childhood Facilities Working Group.

These efforts position Access CDFI as a national leader in child care finance and policy innovation.

CARE NV PROGRAM

The CARE NV (Child and Residential Environments) Program pairs child care providers with renovated residential homes where they can operate licensed programs while building long-term financial stability.

In 2025:

5 **new providers** joined the CARE NV network

60 **additional licensed** child care seats were created

7 providers **selected for the 2026 expansion waitlist**

5 SUCCESS STORY

BUILDING OPPORTUNITY IN ACTION – EMPIRE PAINTING & DRYWALL LLC

Ruben's Journey

When Ruben Valdez started **Empire Painting & Drywall**, he wasn't new to the industry. He had spent nearly two decades working his way up in construction, starting as a laborer at 17, then moving into leadership roles and eventually becoming a superintendent. He understood the work inside and out.

But at a certain point, he realized he had reached a ceiling.

"I got to the point where I asked myself, what's next?" Ruben recalls. "That's when I decided to start my own company."

Starting the business was a leap of faith. Like many new entrepreneurs, Ruben understood the work, but not yet the financial side of running a company.

"We started small, with maybe six to eight employees," he said. "The part you don't know when you start is the financial side."

The Barrier

As Empire Painting began securing contracts, the opportunity was clearly there. But a hidden problem emerged: cash flow.

In the construction industry, contractors must cover labor, materials, and operating costs upfront, often waiting weeks or months to be paid. The math is brutal.

"You have to pay your employees, your materials, your insurance, everything on time," Ruben explained. "But the payments don't always come when you expect them. That's the hardest part."

When Ruben landed his first major contract, he knew the opportunity could move his business forward. But he also knew he didn't have the financial capacity to take it on alone. He went to the banks looking for help.

> I went to a few banks, and they all told me the same thing. I didn't have the history they needed."

The Turning Point

That moment changed when Ruben was introduced to Access CDFI.

"I remember the first time I spoke with them. They told me, 'Don't worry, we'll find a way to help you.' No one had told me that before."

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Access CDFI worked with Ruben to finance his first major project, providing the working capital needed to cover upfront costs and keep operations moving. From there, the relationship grew.

With each new contract, Access CDFI reviewed project details and provided financing aligned with the needs of the job. Over time, Ruben was able to take on multiple projects at once—something that would not have been possible without reliable access to capital.

"That changed everything. It gave me the confidence to go after more work."

A True Partnership

For Ruben, the relationship with Access CDFI goes beyond transactions. It's a true partnership.

That trust allowed Empire Painting to evolve from project-based financing to more forward-looking planning, supporting continued expansion and new opportunities. Access CDFI wasn't just providing capital—they were invested in Ruben's success.

> It feels like a partnership, he said. "I can call them anytime, and they understand what we need. They always try to find a way to help."

From 8 to 70 Staff

With Access CDFI as a financial partner, Empire Painting shifted from taking one project at a time to managing several simultaneously.

“We don’t just do one job and stop,” Ruben explained. “We have multiple projects going at the same time, and the cash flow has to move with that.”

That ability to sustain multiple projects created momentum. In just a few years, Empire Painting grew from a small team into a company employing around 70 people and generating millions in annual revenue.

“It wasn’t just growth,” Ruben said. “It was being able to be a serious company, to pay our employees on time, to take care of our suppliers, to keep everything running the right way.”

A Legacy Built

Today, Empire Painting is more than a growing company. It is a source of stability and opportunity for its employees and their families.

“When I look at our team, I see more than just workers,” Ruben said. “We started small, and now we have so many people depending on this business. That makes you want to do better every day.”

Ruben has built a company culture centered on respect, stability, and growth.

> If you do good for the company, we take care of you. We want people to feel like they are part of something.”

The Full Picture

Ruben’s journey began when he came to the United States at 16, started working in construction, and committed himself to learning every part of the trade.

Today, he is building not just projects, but a business that creates jobs, supports families, and contributes to the local economy.

For him, the impact of Access CDFI is clear.

> If it wasn’t for them, I don’t think we would have grown the way we did,” he said. “They’ve been there from the beginning.”

Keep Going

Ruben encourages other business owners not to stop when traditional financing options don’t work.

“Sometimes you go to a bank and they say no, and you think that’s the end,” he said. “But there are organizations like Access that understand your business and want to help you grow.”

The message is simple: opportunity exists beyond the first door that closes. With the right partner who believes in you, ambition becomes achievement.

Watch the video

6 TESTIMONIALS

Le'Host Beauty

"Access capital came at the right time. It gave us the ability to grow, pivot, and sustain our business.

They didn't just provide funding. They coached us and helped us make the right decisions for our business.

It's not just a lender. It's a real partnership with people who care about your success.

Because of Access, we were able to expand, hire staff, and grow our business in ways we couldn't have done alone.

Small businesses don't grow alone. You need the right partners, and Access helps make that possible."

Watch the video

Barbara's Babies Childcare & More, LLC

"Access made sure I had everything I needed not only to get started, but to succeed in my first year of operation.

They provided financial support and connected me with the resources I needed to grow and build a presence in the community.

Being a childcare provider can feel overwhelming, but Access helped me feel supported and connected every step of the way."

Henderson Christian Academy

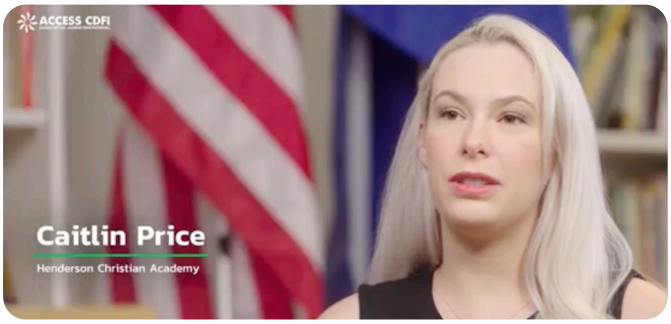
"Access understands our industry. They understand how our business actually works, and that makes all the difference.

Having access to capital gives you the peace of mind to grow and execute your vision without putting your business at risk.

They are extremely human, easy to work with, and truly understand what businesses like ours need.

It's important to have a partner that helps you stay stable while you grow and continue serving your community."

Watch the video



Milestone Family Solutions

"Working with Access CDFI was a turning point for my business.

What stands out most is how understanding and flexible the team has been whenever we needed support."

> They are more than a lender. They are a true partner in helping businesses move forward."

SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Access CDFI is committed to developing the next generation of finance professionals. Through our Summer Internship Program, students gain hands-on experience across finance, business, and the fast-growing AI and social media landscape. The program was established to build the technical and entrepreneurial skills students need for college, careers, and business development.

Interns work alongside our lending, underwriting, and business support teams, contributing to meaningful projects that support Nevada entrepreneurs. Along the way, they develop practical skills, receive mentorship from experienced professionals, and participate as valued members of the Access CDFI team.

"My internship experience with Access was one of a kind.

As I was entering junior year, I knew I wanted to focus on different aspects of business, but I wasn't sure where to begin. I was connected with Access Community Capital as my first real opportunity.

As a beginner, many members of the team took the time to teach me the fundamentals and provide the kind of learning experience that many companies simply expect you to already have. Step by step, I became more independent, completed new projects, and developed financial models.

Access truly embraced me as part of the team rather than treating me as an observer. I participated in the day-to-day operations of the organization and gained valuable experience analyzing companies and building financial models used in real-world lending.

Access is an amazing place to build your skills, learn, and connect with a welcoming team that genuinely wants you to succeed."

Rohan Ross

"Working at Access CDFI during my junior year was not my first job, but it was the first time I truly felt fulfilled.

Wayne, Nic, and the team worked closely with me as I explored new ways to improve financial statement analysis using AI. They were highly communicative, provided valuable feedback, and gave me ownership over the research I was conducting.

When I wanted to learn more about underwriting, Cicily welcomed me to shadow her each week, giving me firsthand exposure to the lending process.

I would highly recommend the Paid Summer Internship Program to anyone interested in finance, community development, or anyone looking to explore a new career path while gaining meaningful, hands-on experience."

Robert Chondro

THANK YOU

Access CDFI’s work would not be possible without the support of our partners and financial institutions.

Together, these organizations help expand access to capital and create opportunities for entrepreneurs across Nevada.

Financial Institutions

Quality Jobs Fund

TOYOTA Financial Savings Bank

us bank Foundation

Bank of Nevada

SCE Credit Union

First Citizens Bank

JPMorgan Chase & Co.

charles SCHWAB

WELLS FARGO

Community and Program Partners

City of Las Vegas Nevada

City of North Las Vegas

Urban Chamber of Commerce

CSN College of Southern Nevada

GOED Nevada Governor’s Office of Economic Development

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