Project Profile



Location:

110-112 Allegheny Street Martinsburg, PA

County:

Blair

Description:

Business Expansion

Total Project Cost: \$181,000





People:

What nobler calling is there than helping others to start the day right? Throughout Karen Wyland's 11-year career as a baker, making breakfast has been her passion. "I love giving people good food and things that they haven't tried before, like old-fashioned recipes," she says. She decided to expand to Martinsburg, near much-visited Lake Raystown, and add new items, like picnic lunches. She found a great location for rent — and that was nearly her downfall.

Progress:

Despite Karen's track record, banks didn't want to lend to a renter, because they'd have no lien on the building. So the St. Francis College Small Business Development Center told her that alternative financing could be an option. "After I got with The Progress Fund, everything just kept on rolling," Karen says.

Impact:

The Fund loaned \$68,000 and arranged a \$72,000 loan from the state's First Industries Tourism Program. Karen is creating 10 new jobs, and buying more locally produced apples, fruits, vegetables and milk. She's offering lake-bound tourists and locals alike her wholesome pies, cookies and cakes, plus quality coffees and teas. "It's just going to pull people together," she says.

The Progress Fund is an equal opportunity provider and employer.