

Project Profile



Location:

1101 William Flynn Hwy.
Glenshaw, PA
boydandblair.com

County:

Allegheny

Description:

Business Development

Total Project Cost:

\$1 million



Pennsylvania Pure Distilleries



People:

It's not hard to find regional beer, but what about local vodka? That question bedeviled Prentiss Orr, who researched the possibilities. He ran it by Barry Young, who mulled it and came back with this: "We're going to make vodka."

They left positions in regional marketing and healthcare to do just that. Using locally grown potatoes, they crafted "a sweeter vodka," as Prentiss puts it, with "just a little bit more viscosity to it, a little more mouth-feel to it." It's also vodka with a story – distilled here with local ingredients – that appeals to the growing number of people who want to consume the products of their region.

Progress:

The Progress Fund helped bridge a financing gap by securing a \$200,000 loan from the state's First Industries Tourism Program.

Impact:

Pennsylvania Pure Distilleries got the approvals needed to distill vodka, and set up shop in an empty part of a glass factory. Now Barry's the stillmaster, and Prentiss the marketing whiz. They are tapping into the thirst of visitors and locals alike for the experience of, as Prentiss puts it, "being able to find something you like that is truly high quality, and made in your own back yard."

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