

Project Profile



Location:

644 Broadway Ave.
McKees Rocks, PA

County:

Allegheny

Description:

Business expansion loan

Total Project Cost:

\$59,655



Abjuration Brewing

People:

Start with a Christmas present: a home brewing kit Dave Hallam got from his wife. Mix Dave's science background with the unbridled creativity of friend Tom Glover. Add the owner of an entertainment complex, who tasted their beer at the Steel City Big Pour and invited them to open a pub. Sounds like a recipe for a great small business story. The sour note: Abjuration Brewing's initial financing siphoned their cash flow, and crowdfunded investment wasn't enough to ferment growth.

Progress:

When Dave and Tom decided to expand, they learned that The Progress Fund had backed several brew pubs. The Progress Fund refinanced their debt and financed equipment to triple their production.

Impact:

Abjuration means rejection of an oath or belief, and Dave and Tom renounce the practice of making the same beer over and over. Instead, they're adding mouthfeel to the McKees Rocks entertainment scene with a constantly changing menu that might include an Oaked India Pale Ale, Boysenberry Fruited Sour, Milkshake Ale, Rye Brown Porter or anything else they conjure up. They're expanding via outdoor seating, potentially tripling their payroll and considering the formation of a brewer training lab. "This loan from The Progress Fund has secured us into McKees Rocks for the long-term," says Dave, "and we couldn't be happier about that."

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