

Organization Highlights

- Timeframe/years for the organization highlights: 2014-2017
- Jobs created or retained: 2,848
- Businesses assisted: 492
- Individuals provided with financial counseling and literacy training: 8,927
- Community revitalization projects assisted: 7
- Housing units developed and percentage developed for low-mod households: 59 units developed; 100% low-mod households
- Total square footage of commercial or retail space developed: 37,479 sq. ft.
- Total dollar amount loaned: \$159,566,389
- Clients served by community facilities: 54,462

Contact

Name: Kevin Smith, President & CEO
Email: ksmith@cvky.org
Phone: (859) 231-0054
Website: www.cvky.org

Community Ventures (CV) strengthens communities by helping people achieve their dreams of greater economic opportunity. From affordable financing, to education, to neighborhood revitalization, our areas of focus offer the opportunity to dramatically improve the quality of life for people across Kentucky.

CV has demonstrated experience delivering a variety of lending products to disadvantaged entrepreneurs and residents in both rural and urban markets throughout Kentucky. CV's SBA Microenterprise program offers loans up to \$50,000 for small business owners, while the SBA Guarantee 504 program offers capital for large-scale projects up to \$5 million. For homebuyers, CV offers both first and second mortgages and down payment assistance. CV also offers construction financing, permanent financing out of its own portfolio, and commercial financing for its newer projects like Mustard Seed Hill.

Beyond financing, CV offers small business technical assistance for entrepreneurs and small business owners, pre-purchase and post-purchase counseling for homebuyers, and foreclosure counseling for homeowners.

Thanks to the financial assistance awards from the CDFI Fund, CV leveraged additional sources of funding that allow it to reach more clients each year, while growing and expanding the scope of products and services to individuals, businesses, and communities across the state.

Cedar Street Development

Community Ventures (CV) has been exploring ways to serve the residents of West Louisville, where the community has experienced significant

poverty, high unemployment, and lack of access to adequate healthy food, and lack of adequate housing. For example, in 2015 CV announced a partnership with the City of Louisville, thanks in part to the CDFI Fund, to develop custom-built market-rate homes for low to moderate income households on Cedar Street, located in the Russell neighborhood of West Louisville.

Ms. JoAnn Austin, a daycare teacher and lifelong resident of Russell, had previously lived in Section 8 rental housing. She had given up on the dream of homeownership, but after a few conversations with a CV homeownership counselor, she learned that she qualified for a loan, and decided to sign up for homeownership counseling to learn more about the home buying process. She began saving money wherever she could and once she had secured her lot on Cedar Street she was able to work with a CV Housing Development Specialist to tailor her home to her needs – and some of her wants too.

CV's development on Cedar Street would not be possible without the support of the CDFI Fund. CV leveraged these awards into additional sources of funding that allow the organization to develop an entire street of new, market-rate homes. The funding CV brought to the table helped to secure the partnership with the City of Louisville and attract other bank partners to be able to build these homes and develop this community for existing Russell residents like Ms. Austin, who might not have otherwise been able to purchase a home. More importantly, this funding allowed CV to be a part of important growth in this neighborhood that continues to struggle with poverty, low rates of home ownership, and where the violent crime rate is five times that of the rest of Louisville.



Project Highlights

- Median Income Compared to Area Median Income (AMI): 31%
- Unemployment Rate: 30%
- Poverty Rate: 62%
- Persistent Poverty County