

NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING SERVICES OF DIMMIT COUNTY

CARRIZO SPRINGS, TEXAS

Established in 1986, the Neighborhood Housing Services of Dimmit County (NHSDC, Inc.) is a certified Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI), with the mission to further community and economic development in the rural communities it serves through business development, affordable housing, and support of local agricultural industries. NHSDC serves 11 rural, border counties in South Texas—including Dimmit, LaSalle, Maverick, Zavala, Frio, Kinney, Uvalde, and Medina, Val Verde, Edwards and Real—all of which suffer from poor economic conditions, high unemployment, low educational attainment, and high poverty rates.

Prior to making a business loan, NHSDC works closely with each borrower to understand their business. After carefully evaluating their capital needs, NHSDC tailors both its loan products and supportive services to ensure borrower success, including assistance with business plan development, financial projections, and marketing. These services strengthen the capacity of the borrower and help loan officers structure a proper-sized loan with appropriate and feasible payback terms.

On average, NHSDC provides financial and development services to 130 to 160 business owners each year. In addition, its affordable home loan clients receive one-on-one credit, homeownership, and home maintenance counseling at no cost to the borrower.

To date, NHSDC has made 199 loans, amounting to \$7.6 million in its 11-county service area. These loans have leveraged an additional \$3.1 million and led to the creation or retention of 855 jobs. This would not have been possible without the CDFI Fund, which has helped NHSDC provide much-needed capital and technical assistance to local businesses.



GREEN HOUSE FARM

Green House Farm is located in the Quemado, Texas and is the first start-up, commercial, hydroponic farming business in the region. Quemado is a small, rural community of 230 residents in Maverick County, which is classified by the U.S. Census as having persistent poverty because more than 20 percent of its residents lived in poverty in each of the past three Censuses.

Before starting Green House Farm, Mr. and Mrs. Jesus Perez had worked in the agricultural and farming business for more than 20 years. In 2011, Mr. Perez attended a NHSDC small business workshop. There, he learned about NHSDC's financial and technical assistance for underserved small business owners.

In 2012, NHSDC provided Mr. Perez with a \$250,000 loan to get his business off the ground. With this support, Mr. Perez successfully set up his commercial greenhouse with four 30 foot by 90 foot bays. Within a few months, Mr. Perez was able to sell his first round of produce to the local market in Eagle Pass and Carrizo Springs. Today, Green House Farm employs 12 employees and is looking to expand the types of produce it grows.

CONTACT

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NHSDC BY THE NUMBERS

(1986 TO 2013)

→JOBS CREATED OR RETAINED: 855

→NUMBER OF BUSINESSES
ASSISTED: 199

→NUMBER OF COMMUNITY
REVITALIZATION PROJECTS
ASSISTED: 7

→TOTAL DOLLAR AMOUNT
LOANED: \$7.6M

→TOTAL DOLLAR AMOUNT
LEVERAGED: \$3.1M

→SERVES 11 RURAL BORDER
COUNTIES IN TEXAS

CDFI
COALITION
WWW.CDFI.ORG