

# **East Side**

## **Wilmington, DE**

True Access Capital collaborated with the Central Baptist Community Development Corporation (CB-CDC) to implement economic development activities, including business planning courses, business counseling and business loans, for current and would-be business owners on the Eastside.

The Eastside Rising initiative was established to focus on housing stabilization and workforce development in one of Wilmington's oldest neighborhoods, once the thriving center of the city's African American middle class. The initiative's flagship effort, The Lacy Project, rehabilitated a vacant mixed-use building to include affordable housing and the neighborhood's sole sit-down restaurant, Jerry Deen's.

Jerry Deen's is the first new restaurant on the east side in decades, and remarkably, the opening represents a return to the east side for proprietor Charly Bass, who grew up there.

In addition to lending that supported the project, True Access Capital provided small business development activities and entrepreneurial training programs for the community, as well as technical assistance for Jerry Deen's.