



ANNUAL Impact Report

FY25 - JULY 1, 2024 - JUNE 30, 2025

2025



Dear Friends,

As we close out fiscal year 2025, WomenVenture reflects a year defined by bold progress, resilience, and meaningful momentum. This milestone year marked 25 years of fueling women-owned businesses as the Twin Cities' only Women's Business Center—a legacy built alongside thousands of entrepreneurs and more than \$25 million in capital delivered across Minnesota and Western Wisconsin.

Throughout the fiscal year, we witnessed powerful growth: new entrepreneurs stepping confidently into business ownership, long-standing clients reaching important milestones, and our team expanding programs, partnerships, and systems to deepen our impact. Together, we navigated challenges with creativity and purpose, always grounded in our mission to help women build sustainable futures for themselves, their families, and their communities.

In fiscal year 2025, our team served 1,483 clients, celebrated 464 program graduates, and disbursed \$1.58 million in capital—100% to women-owned businesses and 46% to businesses owned by people of color. Behind the scenes, we strengthened our organization by investing in our people, modernizing systems, and building momentum through strong donor and community partnerships.

As we step into fiscal year 2026, our commitment is clear: to maintain stability, meet entrepreneurs where they are, and continue delivering capital, coaching, and connection during a time of real uncertainty. We are deeply proud of our team and honored to walk alongside our clients on their business journeys.

Thank you to our partners, supporters, and community for making this impact possible.

With gratitude,



LeeAnn Rasachak
Chief Executive Officer



Gemma Kubat
Board Chair-Elect



OUR MISSION

To empower women to achieve their economic goals by building profitable and sustainable businesses that transform communities.



OUR VISION

A world where women-owned businesses are the economic engine that powers our world.



OUR VALUES

Engage with empathy.
Make meaningful change. Persist boldly.



CORE TARGET

By 2030, we will have **\$15M** in our active loan portfolio and will have impacted the lives of **10,000** women since 2020.

OUR IMPACT

WHO WE SERVE

1,490 CLIENTS SERVED

90%

Female clients



12

Veteran clients

52%

BIPOC clients



81

Clients with disability

57%

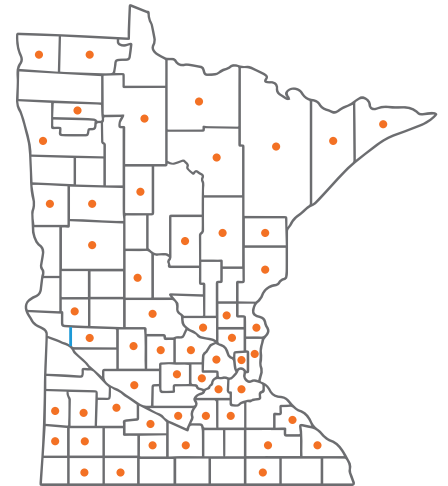
Lower-Income clients



WHERE WE SERVE

57

MINNESOTA COUNTIES SERVED



HOW WE SERVE

8,187

TRAINING & CONSULTING HOURS



70

Businesses launched



2,833

Jobs created/retained



169

Childcare businesses supported

\$396K

GRANTS DISBURSED

\$1.58M

LOANS DISBURSED

Where Beauty Meets Belonging

Jeena Gurung Vomhof,
Founder of Namaste Brows & Boutique

At WomenVenture, we are honored to walk alongside women who are redefining what entrepreneurship can look like—deeply rooted in identity, resilience, and community. As the founder of Namaste Brows and Boutique, Jeena Gurung Vomhof, has transformed her lived experience—from rebuilding as a mother to navigating life as a Nepali immigrant—into a beautiful, welcoming space where culture, identity, and community meet. What began as a personal path toward healing and self-worth has grown into a thriving business recognized across the Twin Cities and beyond. Every element of Namaste Brows reflects Jeena’s commitment to heritage and empowerment, from threading services rooted in tradition to handcrafted goods sourced from Nepali women artisans. Her leadership extends far beyond her storefront as she mentors immigrant entrepreneurs, uplifts artisans, and continues expanding her mission through new ventures like SURU.

Her journey with WomenVenture began through networking and training programs, but the connection quickly became deeper.

“WomenVenture didn’t just give me business tools. They believed in me,” she says. “The connections I made early on gave me the confidence to show up and take space as a woman and as a business owner. I met powerful women with powerful stories—and we continue to uplift each other.”



“Empowering women is at the heart of everything I do—whether it’s mentoring immigrant entrepreneurs, volunteering with incarcerated men, or creating platforms for artisans in Nepal.”

-JEENA



WOMEN MEAN BUSINESS



WomenVenture 2024 Expanding Business Award – Anne Andrus

Since founding Honey & Rye in 2013, Anne Andrus has grown her bakery into a cherished St. Louis Park destination known for exceptional baked goods, a welcoming marketplace, and strong community connection. Over the years, she has employed more than 40 team members and scaled her business to seven figures through vision, creativity, and unwavering dedication. This year, Anne expanded her impact by purchasing a building and launching her second location, Bakehouse, a space that offers artisanal baked goods, Italian sodas, and classes led by local food makers. Anne’s leadership and entrepreneurial spirit continue to strengthen the region’s culinary and small-business community.



WomenVenture 2024 Social Entrepreneur Award – Kristi Hemmer

Kristi Hemmer, founder of the Academy for Women’s Empowerment, is a passionate social entrepreneur dedicated to dismantling inequities and creating a safer, more equitable world for women and girls. Through her work as an author, speaker, and coach, Kristi inspires changemakers to be unapologetic in their power and to boldly challenge systems that hold women back. Whether delivering keynote speeches around the world or coaching individuals one-on-one, she empowers her clients to activate their potential, elevate their presence, and step confidently into leadership.

Thank you, Women Mean Business Sponsors





Building Bridges Across Cultures

Cynthia (CJ) Arnold

CJ Arnold's journey from corporate America to founder of 1 Earth United is a testament to purpose, resilience, and the transformative power of listening to one's calling. A life-changing vision of a red-tailed hawk set her on a path to uplift Indigenous communities through art, fashion, and cultural exchange—work rooted in unity, preservation, and economic empowerment. Through 1 Earth United, CJ connects Indigenous artists to global audiences, amplifying voices often overlooked and fostering pride within marginalized communities. Her path has not been easy, but with determination—and the strategic tools, mentorship, and relationships she gained through WomenVenture's entrepreneurial programs—CJ has built a platform that honors heritage, strengthens community, and challenges the world to see Indigenous culture through a lens of beauty and respect. Her story is a powerful reminder that when you follow your purpose and stay open to learning, you can create lasting impact for yourself and others.

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Building a Dream

LakePlace Legacy - Jennifer Arriola

Jennifer Arriola's journey to founding LakePlace Bed & Breakfast is a testament to rediscovering purpose and daring to start anew. After more than 20 years empowering women and girls in the nonprofit sector, burnout—and an unexpected moment of serenity during a lakeside getaway—sparked a new vision: to build a peaceful retreat where others could reconnect with nature and themselves. With support from WomenVenture's Small Business Essentials course, Jennifer transformed that vision into reality, gaining the confidence and tools to launch her business with intention and heart. Today, LakePlace Bed & Breakfast embodies thoughtful hospitality and inclusivity, offering guests a warm, restorative haven that honors the cultural history of the land and celebrates the simple joy of feeling welcomed exactly as they are.



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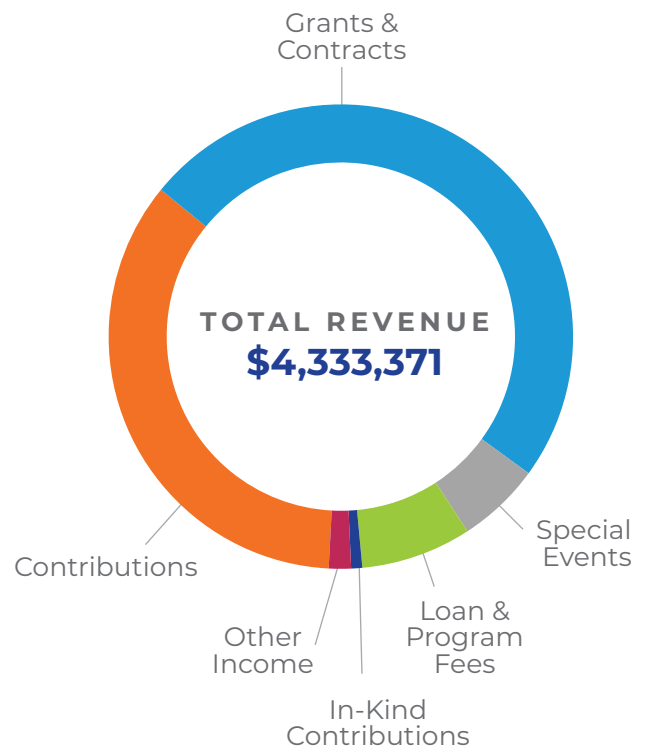
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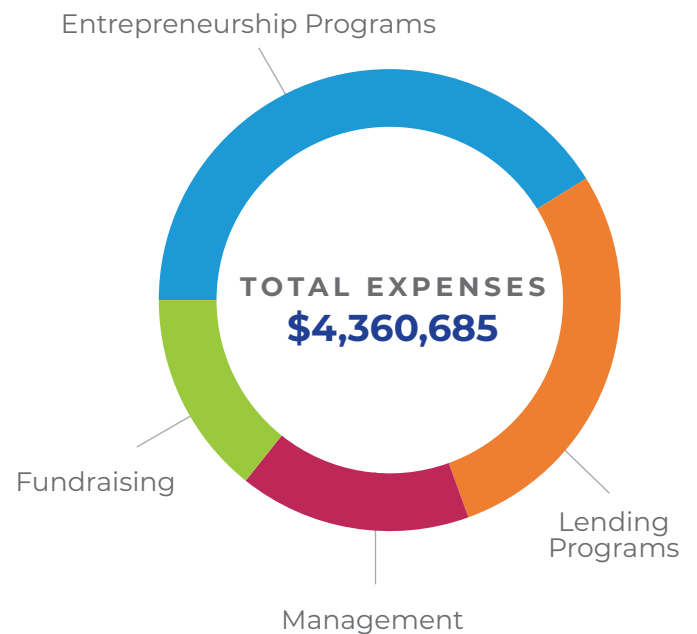
Support & Revenue

Contributions	\$1,518,689
Grants & Contracts	\$2,126,987
Special Events	\$251,778
Loan & Program Fees	\$333,403
In-Kind Contributions	\$33,403
Other Income	\$69,111
TOTAL	\$4,333,371



Expenses

Entrepreneurship Programs	\$1,795,501
Lending Programs	\$1,234,070
Management & General	\$708,575
Fundraising	\$622,719
TOTAL	\$4,360,865



Change in Net Assets: -\$27,494



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