Need a small loan to start or grow a business?

Northland Foundation + Kiva can help!

If you could use a loan of $1,000 to $15,000 to start or grow your small business in northeast Minnesota, there is a new option available! You may be able to crowdfund the loan you need through Kiva, with local support from the Northland Foundation and Northland Small Business Development Center (SBDC).

With our backing, you can work one-on-one with an SBDC consultant to plan, apply for, and promote your loan through Kiva. There is no charge for the foundation’s support, the SBDC’s help, or to use Kiva’s online platform.

You do not need to have a great credit rating or put up any collateral. You will need a PayPal account.

Here’s how it works.

As a Kiva Trustee, we support borrowers in northeast Minnesota, vouch for their character and business, and can help them reach the goal amount on their loan. Entrepreneurs we work with receive no-cost assistance to design their Kiva profile, one-page business plan, and loan request details. The process works like this:

1. Contact us for help: Borrowers working with Northland Foundation are connected with a local consultant who will help them plan and prepare.

2. Apply to Kiva online: Apply to Kiva. They will review the application and invite the borrower to begin the 15-day Private Fundraising Period.

3. Private Fundraising: The borrower has 15 days to find a small number of people to lend at least $25 each to help get the loan going.

4. Public Fundraising: The loan goes live on the Kiva website for crowdfunding. Individuals from all over the world can contribute toward the loan.

5. Loan Awarded: If the full loan amount is raised within 30 days, Kiva awards the loan and deposits the funds into the borrower’s PayPal account.

More about us.

Northland Foundation has been around since 1986 providing grants, business loans, and programs for people and communities in northeast Minnesota and five Native nations. We have joined with Kiva to help more people in our region get the small loans they need to start, stabilize, or grow a business.

Kiva is a nonprofit microloan organization created to help people build a better future. Kiva enables individuals from across the globe to borrow money to help entrepreneurs achieve their dreams. Since 2011, more than 10,000 small businesses in the United States alone have borrowed $60 million from 230,000+ lenders.

Interested?

Use the code shown below or navigate in your browser to NorthlandKiva.org. You can also contact Amanda Vuicich, Small Business Lender, at (218) 270-8407 or email her at amanda@northlandfdn.org.