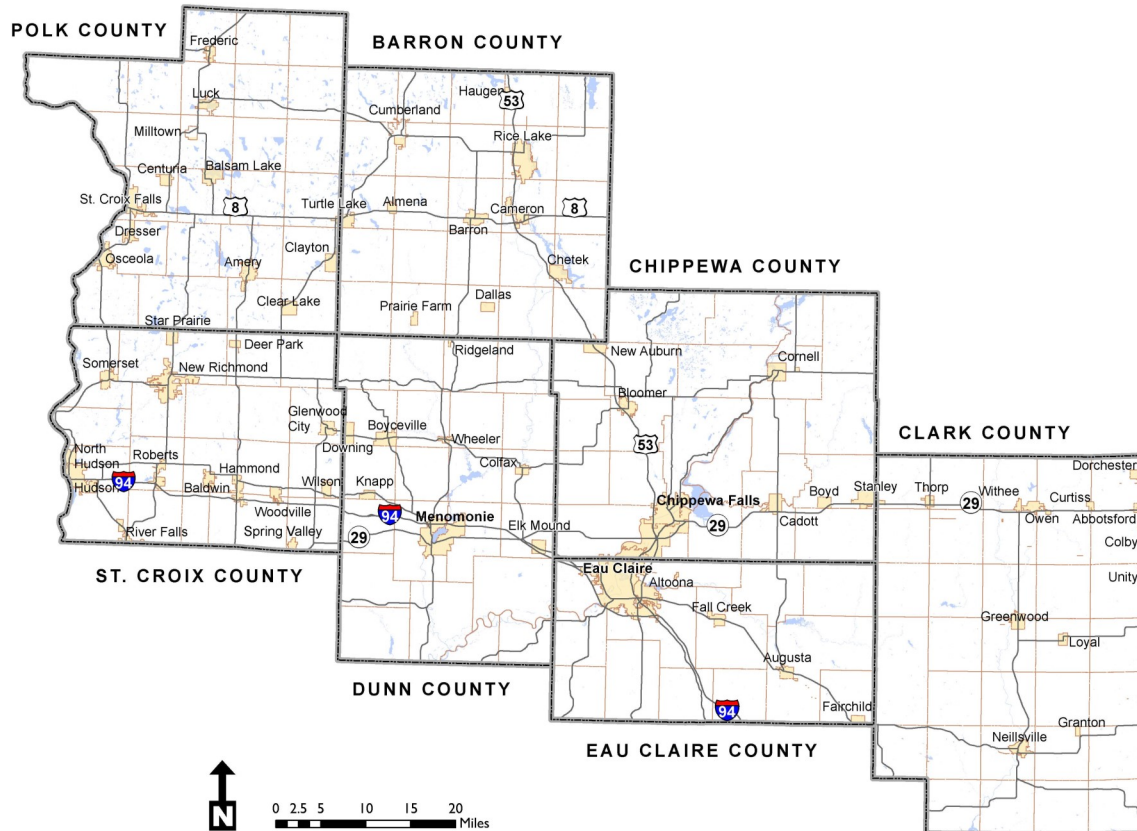




REGIONAL BUSINESS FUND, INC.

A CONSOLIDATED REGIONAL REVOLVING LOAN FUND

EST. MAY 2007



Regional Business Fund, Inc. (RBF, Inc.) was the **second piloted regional consolidated loan fund** in the state, with official operations commencing in May of 2007. **31 of the 32** existing municipal based Community Development Block Grant Revolving Loan Funds were consolidated into the non-profit, resulting in a fund that is now capitalized at approximately **\$15 million**. The fund is administered by the West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission.

RBF, Inc.'s mission is to promote business and economic development in west central Wisconsin by providing business financing tools. RBF, Inc. does this by offering low-interest loan funds to businesses that expand within the region, diversify the economy, add new technology, revitalize buildings in the region's downtowns, create or retain quality jobs, and leverage capital investment in the region.

Throughout the past 10 years, RBF, Inc. has **defederalized over \$5 million dollars** allowing for the creation of new programs to serve gaps in the existing credit market. More funds are being revolved in the region by **reducing delinquencies from almost 20% to 5%**. Additionally, only 2% of the new loans originated after consolidation have been written off, compared to writing off almost 12% of the portfolio consolidated in.

The loan committee structure allows for local input into the vast majority of projects for approval, with professional staff at WCWRPC performing underwriting and servicing of the portfolio. A 9-member Board of Directors oversees the fund.

LOAN PROGRAMS AND HISTORICAL ACTIVITY

REVOLVING LOAN FUND

The Revolving Loan Fund is a flexible source of loan funds for commercial and industrial projects. The purpose is to encourage the creation and retention of quality jobs and to increase the tax base.

GROWTH LOAN FUND

The Growth Loan Fund Program is a flexible source of loan funds for commercial and industrial projects. The purpose of the fund is to support the growth of existing companies that have financial needs that cannot be met by traditional financial institutions.

MICRO LOAN FUND

The Micro Loan Fund provides loans to start-up and newly established growing businesses. The key objective is to afford an alternative source of credit to businesses who have traditionally had difficulty accessing debt financing.

DOWNTOWN FAÇADE FUND

The Downtown Façade Fund provides financial assistance to encourage property and business owners in core downtowns to revitalize downtown commercial buildings within the cities and villages of west central Wisconsin.

TECHNOLOGY ENTERPRISE FUND

The Technology Enterprise Fund is a "quasi-equity", or patient debt, revolving loan fund that provides creative financing to new and emerging technology companies.

	\$ Awarded	# of Businesses Assisted	# of Start Up Companies	Private \$ Leveraged	Job Creation & Job Retention
2010	\$2,365,035	66	32	\$10,829,425	409
2011	\$2,747,243	47	21	\$19,516,867	444
2012	\$2,608,950	42	17	\$12,244,285	340
2013	\$4,212,435	50	19	\$48,630,193	1,067
2014	\$2,548,800	50	12	\$22,666,284	365
2015*	\$1,158,800	14	6	\$6,387,200	165
2016	\$2,728,873	47	18	\$24,225,623	439
2017	\$4,152,318	73	24	\$21,734,146	514

The organization has developed key partnerships throughout the years with our member communities allowing for the consolidation of all but one revolving loan fund in the region. Additionally, RBF, Inc. relies on the economic development corporation directors at both the county and municipal level, lenders at banks and credit unions, as well as other partner non-traditional financing organizations to service the business financing needs of the region.

**RBF, Inc. was unable to accept applications for the year after 4/1/2015 due to a now resolved issue with the WI Department of Administration.*

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