

Backcountry Cobbler

Awarded date: April 2022

Total project cost: \$16,445

Total requested: \$16,445

Amount awarded: \$16,445 (100% of requested)

Project Summary:

Established in 2018, Backcountry Cobbler quickly started to provide additional service resoling boots, orthopedics and tack. At the time of the application, the business owner was working on homemade equipment and was unable to keep up with his current demand. He had just signed a large orthopedic modification contract with a local business and had learned that the other cobbler in Fremont County was soon to retire. LIFT funds provided the opportunity for the purchase of industry specific shoe finishing machine, a fume extraction work table, and a shoe patching machine.

In March, at their six month check in, Backcountry Cobbler had purchased and installed their new equipment and had hired two new full time employees. The business owner noted that not only did the new equipment provide a safer working environment that it had also allowed them to increase their efficiency and turn around time for their customer base. Another full time position is expected this calendar year.

Status: Awaiting 12 month report

Apple Valley School

Awarded date: June 2022

Total project cost: \$94,000

Total requested: \$94,000

Amount awarded: \$70,500 (75% of request)

Project summary:

Apple Valley School is a licensed daycare and early education provider in Lander. Prior to receiving the LIFT Grant, which was used to build a mudroom onto their existing building, AVS provided childcare and early education services to 32 children from ages 1.5 to 5 years old. At the time, they employed 4 full time and 4 part time employees.

With the additional space made possible by the building expansion for the 2022/2023 school year, AVS increased their capacity to 40 children, and has hired two additional full time and 2 additional part time employees. They have also been able to expand their hours to provide more flexibility to families. They are currently on track to increase their capacity to 42 students, 6 full time, and 6 part time employees for the 2023/2024 year.

The LIFT funds provided to help with this expansion has generate not only created two additional full time and two part time positions (with a third full time position this fall) but has

provided an additional childcare option for 10 Lander families, making it possible for up to 10 parents / grandparents to re-enter the Lander workforce.

Project status: Completed. (12 month progress report)

Aman Cara

Awarded date: June 2022

Total project cost: \$180,000

Total requested: \$64,000

Amount awarded: \$16,000 (25% of amount requested)

Project summary:

Aman Cara Caregiving is a local non-profit that provides custom in-home and hospice caregiving to Lander's seniors. Working in conjunction with health and hospice providers, their services include companionship, meal planning and prep, safety assurance, medication reminders, transfer assistance, toileting and personal care assistance, support with activities of daily living, entertainment opportunities, and every aspect of care needed to support the final stages of life. At the time of application, Aman Cara's executive director (also an RN) was working as the programs single case manager, managing on average 23 patients and about 30 contract workers.

In March, at their six month check in, Aman Cara Caregiving had hired 2 RN Case Managers (each working 20 hrs a week) to assist with training, managing, supervising, and scheduling 40 caregivers and an average of 30 clients at a given time. This has allowed Aman Cara to grow its service capacity and allow the Executive Director time and space to attend to the strategic plan for organization and financial growth and development.

In addition to job creation, Aman Care also provides an opportunity for new primary dollars into Lander, as many of their services are paid for by private insurance and patient family members outside of the Lander community.

Project status: Awaiting 12 month report.

Lander Motel

Awarded date: June 2022

Total project cost: \$1,148,000

Total requested: \$55,000

Amount awarded: \$55,000 (100% of request)

Project Summary:

This project was to help fund upgrading the water and electrical to the Motel at 569 Main St. Once the project is completed, the motel will employ 3 full time and 2 part time employees and generate \$60K annually in lodging, property and sales tax annually back to the Lander community.

In December, at their six month check in, the building remodel was well underway and had been able to use exclusively local contractors for their work. The building's interior rooms had been completed with new plumbing, electrical, HVAC, flooring, and drywall. Plans for exterior improvements were underway and the estimated opening date was projected to be summer 2023.

Project status: Awaiting 12 month report

Lander Brewing Company (LBC)

Awarded date: August 2022

Total project cost: \$31,665

Total requested: \$15,834

Amount awarded: \$23,752 (75% request)

Project Summary:

Lander Brewing Company has been brewing beer in Lander since 2009. This LIFT grant provided funds to help LBC purchase canning equipment which allows LBC to expand into new markets around the state. At the time that the LIFT award was received 95% of LBC sales are in kegs and 5% in bottles and was struggling to meet the demand for bottled products. The efficiency that canning equipment provides (400% faster than bottling) provides opportunities for LBC to sell their product line statewide and better serve local events and festivals in town.

In March, at their 6 month check in, LBC had purchased their new canning equipment, had created one full time position in support and had already increased their production enough to distribute statewide. At that time, they were actively seeking a second full time position.

Project status: Awaiting 12 month report.