



News Release

WYOMING DISTRICT OFFICE

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“INNOVATIVE” ACCESS TO CAPITAL

Access to small loans for small businesses owned and operated by an identified “underserved market” (a woman, minority or veteran), or to businesses located in designated low to moderate income areas, have traditionally not been that easy to come by. Innovative Bank, located in Oakland, California, is about to change that tradition across Wyoming with the introduction of its **Small Office Home Office (SOHO) Access Program of Community Express, in conjunction with the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) and the Wyoming Women’s Business Center (WWBC).**

Innovative Bank is the only SBA guaranteed lender in Wyoming to pilot the Community Express Loans Program and will specialize in making micro-loans to Wyoming’s underserved population and low to moderate income areas. Innovative Bank will team up with the Wyoming Women’s Business Center and provide prospective micro-business applicants with the required technical and management assistance component of the program to increase the loan applicant’s chances for success.

Although SBA’s Community Express Loan Program allows for loans up to a maximum of \$250,000, Innovative Bank is specializing in micro-business loans ranging in size from \$6,000 - \$25,000 and targeting a niche market of customers. **“Innovative Bank is very excited to bring our SOHO Access Program of Community Express to small business owners and start up businesses in Wyoming,”** said Michael Bump, Assistant Director for Business Development at Innovative Bank. **“We have identified a real need within the underserved small business community in Wyoming and are going about filling it. Our loans are particularly helpful for minority and women owned businesses and start-ups in need of small loans.”**

Contact the Wyoming Women’s Business Center 1-888-524-1947 for more information on the Community Express program.

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