



Illinois Valley Community Development Organization
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PO Box 1824 / 341 E Cottage Park Dr #4,
Cave Junction, OR 97523

March 5, 2025

RE: Expansion of existing PIER Award

To the Jackson County PIER Selection Committee,

The team at IVCanDO is working diligently to establish our projects under the *PIER Program: Capital for Small Businesses & Microenterprises*. As a small nonprofit organization, the initial program setup is a significant undertaking. That said, we are incredibly grateful for the opportunity to provide much-needed disaster relief to those who have been waiting for it.

We understand that the selection committee is considering how best to allocate the remaining Economic Revitalization funds. As I mentioned during my update at the February 13th meeting, IVCanDO is well-positioned to make an even greater impact. If the committee determines that additional grant or loan funds should be distributed, we would welcome the opportunity to expand our current programs by up to \$1,000,000 in grants and/or loans. We are open to the committee's input on how these funds would be best allocated to maximize their impact.

Since the award announcement, we have received a steady stream of inquiries from interested individuals. Our partners at the SBDC have also reported a high level of interest and are actively onboarding applicants to ensure they are ready for the program launch. If this expansion moves forward, SBDC is prepared to grow its program to further support clients through the application process. Additionally, we have spoken with our partners at SOREDI, who are supportive of this expansion and willing to collaborate with us to ensure its success.

Expanding our existing program, rather than creating a new one, will save administrative funds and time in the long run, making it a more efficient and effective use of these dollars. By leveraging the infrastructure already in place, we can ensure a smoother rollout and a greater impact with fewer additional resources. However, to successfully execute this expansion, additional administrative funding will be necessary.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions or to schedule a meeting to discuss this opportunity further. We appreciate your time and consideration and look forward to the possibility of expanding our efforts to support local small businesses and microenterprises.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lindsey B. Jones".

Lindsey B. Jones, Executive Director IVCanDO
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