

# RURAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES IMPACT SNAPSHOT

Q3 2020 YEAR TO DATE



[www.rdiinc.org](http://www.rdiinc.org)

## STRONGER RURAL COMMUNITIES

131  
Active  
Community Efforts

395  
Rural  
Leaders  
Trained

87  
Educated in  
Access to  
Capital &  
Fundraising

33  
Fundors  
Engaged

## STRONGER RURAL PEOPLE

95  
Plans  
Created or  
Supported

1,540  
Community  
Members Engaged

210  
Events  
Strengthening  
Connections

50  
Communities  
With Greater  
Capacity to  
Support Their  
Economies

272  
Partner  
Organizations  
Engaged

## STRONGER RURAL ECONOMIES

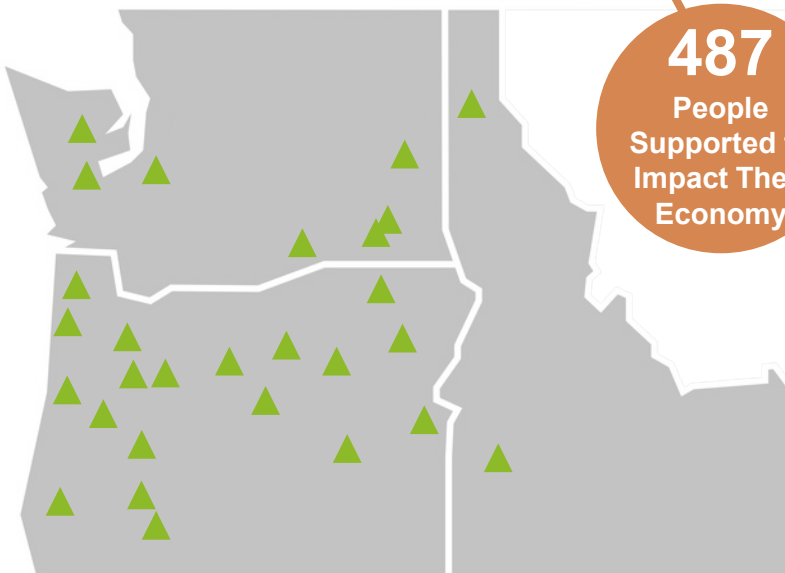
More Than  
\$722,000  
Leveraged

915  
People at  
Events

234  
Businesses  
Engaged

487  
People  
Supported to  
Impact Their  
Economy

Provided testimony for  
**\$15.7 Million**  
\$5 mil Oregon Broadband Fund;  
\$10.7 million to prioritize rural for  
CBDG funding



**“As a volunteer grant writer for a small nonprofit, I needed help! RDI’s 3-session grant writing workshop was a godsend. I’m now ready for another round of grant proposals and know my group will be in the running for the financial support we need.”**

*~ Ready! Set! Grant! Participant*

## BUILDING RURAL WEALTH

### *Spotlight on Intellectual Capital*

To build a region's wealth, the stock of all capitals, not just financial capital, need to be carefully cultivated and replenished. This approach takes into account all the assets of a community or region, and builds on the strengths that already exist. RDI supports communities and organizations to expand knowledge and create and enhance entrepreneurship opportunities, which we refer to as "intellectual capital." Intellectual capital is a foundational capital that enables other forms of wealth to be built.



## VIRTUAL LEARNING COHORT BRINGS TOGETHER RURAL & URBAN

### *A Food Hub Incubator Collaboration*

Growing out of a need the Warm Springs Community Action Team had for assistance to launch their Commissary, the Food Business Incubator Virtual Learning Cohort was born. The ambitious Commissary project will include retail space, a food truck pod, co-working space, and a commercial kitchen.

The collaboration between Portland Mercado, Warm Springs Community Action Team (WSCAT), Bohemia Food Hub, the Burns Paiute Tribe, Nez Perce Wallowa Homeland, and Indy Commons is bringing together rural and urban as well as Latinx and tribal organizations for mentoring meetings focused on topics such as overall business operations, food truck and commercial kitchen management, insurance, and marketing. Portland Mercado, an incubator model and economic development initiative providing affordable retail space for businesses to launch and grow, is sharing their experience and lessons learned, as is the Bohemia Food Hub in Cottage Grove. The format of the learning cohort allows for opportunities to share resources, ask questions, and build partnerships between urban and rural, and among tribal and Latinx initiatives.

This learning experience provides knowledge and tools to help the partners to launch or continue to grow and expand their own projects with the advantages of practical lessons already learned by others.

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## RDI PROGRAMS LEAD TO MORE VIBRANT RURAL COMMUNITIES

*The following illustrates how RDI's support of communities to build local entrepreneurs leads to thriving rural communities.*

