



community news | december 2017

## What a year!

\*|FNAME|\*, thank you for your thoughts and feedback helping us build a new model to invest in social change.

After a year of planning and working with investors and prospective borrowers, we are thrilled to announce our **first impact-based loans** to advance economic opportunity.



Thrive Public Schools



All Across Africa

**Thrive Public Schools** is an award winning group of free public charter schools. They use personalized learning to support students in becoming College-Prepared, Career-Inspired, and Community-Minded. Thrive has been ranked in the **top 100 schools nationally** three years in a row! Our fund provided a bridge loan to help them grow and serve more kids.

**All Across Africa**, headquartered in National City, trains and employs over **3,000 artisans--primarily women--**in five countries in Africa to weave products for sale across the US. We led a round with other impact investors to scale their operations to meet growing sales demand.



### San Diego: Investment Ready

We knew from the get-go that many groups dedicated to making our community stronger weren't getting all the guidance and support they needed to be attractive impact investments. This year, our team helped **60 local organizations better understand and manage their risk, return, and impact**; and connected them to resources to improve the health of their companies. Learn more about [Borrower Services](#).



### Support Stronger Borrowers

You know that communities are strengthened when local businesses grow and thrive. Help impact-based borrowers get the hands-on support they need by donating to keep Borrower Services free for nonprofits, social enterprises, and small businesses.

[Contact Lauren](#) to learn more about donating or investing.



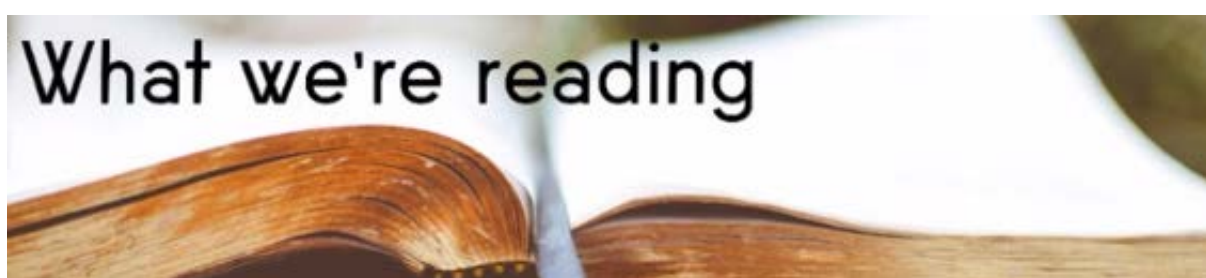
### Small Business Credit Survey

Mission Driven Finance is partnering with the Federal Reserve on a short [Small Business Credit Survey](#) for startup and existing businesses--and nonprofits!--and we'd love to include your perspective. Your answers will help lenders & service providers understand real-time business conditions. Individual responses are confidential and summary results will be shared with you.



### Responsible Lending

Our team believes in engaging borrowers with dignity, love, and trust; empowering them with capital, not charity; and ensuring their success with community partnerships. It was an easy choice to sign on to the [Small Business Borrowers' Bill of Rights](#). We are proudly committed to the fair practices, transparency, and equitable financial structures they've outlined.



- [Local funding for entrepreneurs without a rich uncle](#) [SOCAP Neighborhood Economics]
- [Tapping the Inclusive-Growth Business Opportunity](#) [ImpactAlpha]
- [How ecosystem builders can best help entrepreneurs succeed](#) [Village Capital]
- [The State of Impact Measurement & Management Practice](#) [the GIIN]
- [Marginalized returns](#) [Stanford Social Innovation Review]

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