

ELEVATE 2022

GRANT RECIPIENTS



RESTORATION ACUPUNCTURE & WELLNESS

- **Vincennes, IN**
- **Grant Amount:** \$20,000
- **Member:** First Financial Bank, N.A.
- Restoration Acupuncture & Wellness offers a variety of natural and alternative therapies including acupuncture, infrared heat therapy, sound therapy, cupping and more. They are also a community care provider with the Veteran's Administration. Elevate funds will be used to purchase equipment and supplies for a low-level laser and IV infusions to expand their treatment options along with a new computer.

ASHLEY TENHARMSSEL DBA NORTH HARVEST CSA

- **Calumet, MI**
- **Grant Amount:** \$19,650
- **Member:** Superior National Bank
- North Harvest CSA is a fruit and vegetable farm producing and selling fresh produce and related goods through their weekly farmstand, two Farmers Markets, three CSA's, and numerous wholesale accounts throughout Houghton and Keweenaw Counties. Elevate funds will be used to purchase commercial kitchen equipment to outfit a light processing facility to increase storage capacity to extend produce shelf-life and value-added goods, such as vinegars, sourdough bread and more.

CHICKEN TRAMPER ULTRALIGHT GEAR

- **Hancock, MI**
- **Grant Amount:** \$20,000
- **Member:** Superior National Bank
- Chicken Trampler Ultralight Gear is an outdoor gear manufacturing company that designs and produces over 100 durable products in-house. They are positioned to grow, however are maxed out on labor efficiency. Elevate funds will be used to purchase three industrial sewing machines to optimize the production process by 50 hours per month. They will also hire one additional employee with paid training, increase their advertising spend and purchase material for inventory as they ramp up production.

TOP DOG GROOMING SALON

- **Washington, IN**
- **Grant Amount:** \$20,000
- **Member:** Springs Valley Bank & Trust Co.
- Top Dog Grooming Salon offers dog grooming services currently. Owner, Kaylee Ramsey, started the business back in 2009 at only 18 years old, growing her revenue over \$100,000 and serving more than 1,000 clients. She plans to use Elevate funds in conjunction with a business loan from Springs Valley Bank & Trust Co. to remodel and furnish an attached garage to offer pet daycare and boarding services.

SAPPHIRE STRATEGY LLC

- **Indianapolis, IN**
- **Grant Amount:** \$19,999
- **Member:** Merchants Bank of Indiana
- Sapphire Strategy is a B2B marketing agency specializing in serving the needs of service-based businesses, nonprofits and tech companies to optimize their marketing efforts. Elevate funds will be mostly used for professional development for their staff of seven, which includes Skillshare, Art2Life Creative Visionary Program, Rachel Pritz Coaching, Udemy Business, Adobe Illustrator and LinkedIn Learning. Remaining funds will be used to purchase a MacBook and iPad, along with working capital for various expenses.

FABLES AND FAIRY TALES

- **Martinsville, IN**
- **Grant Amount:** \$14,171
- **Member:** Home Bank SB
- Fables and Fairy Tales is an independent bookstore located in historical downtown Martinsville. They plan on increasing their community involvement by outfitting an enclosed trailer as a mobile bookstore for attending events such as book fairs, festivals and mobile story-telling. Elevate funds will be used to finish the exterior and interior of the enclosed trailer along with a generator. A laptop and point-of-sale equipment will also be purchased.

JAM PRINTING & PROMOTIONS

- **Plainfield, IN**
- **Grant Amount:** \$19,925
- **Member:** Home Bank SB
- JAM is a full-service printing and promotional products company, implementing a variety of creative solutions that include packaging, campaign creation, branded apparel and more. Elevate funds will be used to purchase embroidery and laser etching equipment to bring those services in-house. New computer and laptop stations, receipt scanner, shipping and laser printers, and Corel Design software will also be obtained. A redesigned website is also included in the budget.

CLEAN REFILLERY

- **Lansing, MI**
- **Grant Amount:** \$19,347
- **Member:** First National Bank of America
- Clean Refillery is an eco-friendly refill shop serving the Lansing area that sells home and personal care items without the traditional wasteful packaging many brands use. Some of the products include shampoo, conditioner, laundry detergent, dish soap and more. Elevate funds will be used to enhance their production space with various equipment to increase efficiency. Storage, shelving, signage, a tent, tables and related gear for pop-up events will also be used with working capital being used to boot inventory supplies and payroll.

FEED STORE BEER CO. LLC

- **Bloomfield, IN**
- **Grant Amount:** \$20,000
- **Member:** Farmers and Mechanics Federal Savings Bank
- The Feed Store Beer Co is a family-owned brewery, producing draught beer for in-house and wholesale purchase. They host local events and clubs, such as the Weekly Run/Walk Club, and Summer mini-markets, partnering with local businesses such as food trucks. Along with their own investment, Elevate funds will be used to renovate an existing storage area to expand their seating capacity in a separate meeting space along with a small kitchenette/breakroom.

MBJ ACCOUNTING LLC

- **Vincennes, IN**
- **Grant Amount:** \$18,750
- **Member:** Springs Valley Bank & Trust Co.
- MBJ Accounting offers a range of accounting services including small business bookkeeping, payroll processing, general consulting and tax preparation for individuals and businesses. With five times the volume of clients since opening in 2019, Elevate funds will be used primarily to set up a cloud server and service, along with additional computers and scanners. Additionally, TaxDome software and related cloud subscriptions will be purchased. At least one part-time employee will be hired to assist with tax-preparation for the 2023 season.

BE-TRADE LLC DBA URBAN BIRD & COMPANY

- **Cheboygan, MI**
- **Grant Amount:** \$19,999
- **Member:** Citizens National Bank of Cheboygan
- Urban Bird & Company is a trendy, unique, women's boutique with two locations in Cheboygan and Rogers City. With limited space to display additional merchandise, particularly shoes, Elevate funds will be used towards the lease of a neighboring 1,200 sq. ft. suite to their Cheboygan location and installation of dressing rooms, merchandising fixtures and new check-out counter. Remaining funds will be used towards purchasing merchandise to fill the expanded retail space.

SKINNY PETE'S BAKERY

- **Laurium, MI**
- **Grant Amount:** \$14,676
- **Member:** Superior National Bank
- Skinny Pete's Bakery is a small wholesale bakery providing quality baked goods to the western Upper Peninsula of Michigan, spanning five counties and 25 local stores/restaurants in just three years since opening. Elevate funds will be used to purchase a walk-in fridge and compressor, which will increase storage capacity. With that increased capacity to produce and sell more, Skinny Pete's plans to move into a larger location with a storefront for retail sales in the near future.

ANDREW KOPIETZ LLC DBA GOOD DONE DAILY

- **Hamtramck, MI**
- **Grant Amount:** \$19,791
- **Member:** Oxford Bank
- Good Done Daily is an independent graphic design practice that mixes strategic research with context-sensitive design to help people drive social, civic and place-based change. Elevate funds will be used to purchase updated technology, including studio computers, monitors and a printer. Specialized training in Digital Product Development and Strategic UX Design/Research will also be acquired.

THE T.A.G. ART COMPANY

- **Fort Wayne, IN**
- **Grant Amount:** \$18,500
- **Member:** 1st Source Bank
- TAG Art is a family-friendly arts and entertainment service company. TAG Artists can be found at any type of event you can think of or visit their outdoor event center the Fun Farm in Fort Wayne which features a village of giant playhouses. Elevate funds will be used for installing computerized smart lighting displays which are fully programmable for color and display effects. The remaining funds will be used towards obtaining trackless "train cars" for a seated ride through the Village and Enchanted Forest.

TIMELY TREE SERVICE LLC

- **Marquette, MI**
- **Grant Amount:** \$20,000
- **Member:** Upper Peninsula State Bank
- Timely Tree Service is a small-scale residential tree care company specializing in trimming and removals by rope access technique. Elevate funds will be used to purchase a used single axle dump truck and outfit it with necessary components, such as a hitch receiver and under-bed toolbox. The remaining funds will be used to place the vehicle in service. With the addition of a truck, project sites will have a more comprehensive cleanup and firewood will be sold and delivered to customers to bring in revenue during the off-season.

D L KUSKY SERVICES LLC

- **Flint, MI**
- **Grant Amount:** \$19,939
- **Member:** Oxford Bank
- D L Kusky Services offers employment services to disabled and low-income customers as a vendor for the Social Security Administration and the State of Michigan. They provide job placement, readiness training, coaching and work-based learning experiences. Elevate funds will be used towards moving to an ADA-compliant office, purchasing office furniture and conference room monitor. Remaining funds will be used towards Salesforce software and a consultant for training staff on outreach efforts.

SCHACHT FARM OF BLOOMINGTON LLC

- **Bloomington, IN**
- **Grant Amount:** \$20,000
- **Member:** Indiana University Credit Union
- Schacht Farm raises livestock and produces grass-fed beef, pasture-raised pork and free-range chicken for purchase at Bloomington & Indianapolis Farmer's Markets, local CSA's and in partnership with their local food bank. Elevate funds will be used to purchase building materials to expand their winter housing. That expansion will increase their capacity by 150 laying hens, which will produce an extra 1,500 dozen eggs per winter. They will also expand their egg processing space to increase efficiency for packaging the additional volume.

SWANK & COMPANY DESIGN LLC

- **Vincennes, IN**
- **Grant Amount:** \$10,927
- **Member:** Springs Valley Bank & Trust Co.
- Swank & Company Design offers custom website and hosting for businesses, along with a wide range of graphic design services. Elevate funds will be used to hire two employees and equip them with a laptop and Adobe design software, along with a professional camera to capture high-quality photos for their clients.

CULTURED FERMENTS COMPANY LLC

- **Traverse City, MI**
- **Grant Amount:** \$20,000
- **Member:** Oxford Bank
- Cultured Kombucha Co. is a certified organic and vegan microbrewery specializing in handcrafted, authentically fermented kombucha. Their products can be found at 240 locations across Michigan in retail locations and service for draft keg. A major expansion is underway at their production facility, with Elevate funds being used for equipment such as fermentation tanks and electric forklift systems.

BREWERY FAISAN

- **Detroit, MI**
- **Grant Amount:** \$20,000
- **Member:** Oxford Bank
- Brewery Faisan is a microbrewery producing high quality, Belgian inspired beer. Their crafted beer can be purchased by the can or at the Detroit taproom. Their growth is capped by the manual canning process, so Elevate funds will be towards the purchase and installation of an automated canning machine.

JUDAH'S JAVA LLC

- **Midland, MI**
- **Grant Amount:** \$20,000
- **Member:** Isabella Bank
- Judah's Java, operating as a Biggby coffee franchise, serves up an average of 441 cups of coffee, tea, various other non-caffeinated drinks and small bites to the Midland area per day. Along with a business loan from Isabella Bank, Elevate funds will be used to update and renovate the front and back of house areas to handle their increased capacity since taking over the location in 2018. Extended countertops, a digital menu, new flooring, coolers, storage and tabletops are just some of the improvements of the renovation project.

SABLE AND COMPANY LLC

- **Grand Rapids, MI**
- **Grant Amount:** \$12,154
- **Member:** Lake Michigan Credit Union
- Sable and Company is a minimalist all-natural candle company that wholesales to stores around the USA, however they recently opened their showroom to candle-making workshops. To accommodate increase demand for workshops, Elevate funds will be used to purchase additional seating, shelving and related accessories. The remaining funds will be used to install a custom counter, stock up on fragrances and working capital as they training new hires and renovate the space.

EIGHTZEROSEVENONE LLC DBA CROSSFIT KOKOMO

- **Kokomo, IN**
- **Grant Amount:** \$19,998
- **Member:** Merchants Bank of Indiana
- CrossFit Kokomo offers a range of fitness programming for all fitness levels; including CrossFit Kids and Senior Strong Program, to their growing membership. To keep up with demand and expand offerings, Elevate funds will be used to obtain 1 PN Nutrition and 2 CrossFit certifications. Fitness equipment, such as a Rogue Echo Bike and Assault Runner Pro running machine, will be obtained. The additional equipment will allow members to have better access to cardio equipment and expand their class sizes to keep up with demand.

ERIKA'S FLOWERS

- **Saginaw, MI**
- **Grant Amount:** \$20,000
- **Member:** Isabella Bank
- Erika's Flowers offers floral arrangement services for all occasions via their storefront in downtown Saginaw and online. They will use Elevate funds to replace a display cooler that is over 50 years old, hiring a part-time employee and wrap their floral delivery vehicle with Erika's Flowers branding. The owner, Erika Woods, will also complete The Floral Confidence Workshop to keep with the latest and upcoming market trends.

THE POKE BOWL

- **Flint, MI**
- **Grant Amount:** \$20,000
- **Member:** Metro Community Development, Inc

- The Poke Bowl is a restaurant serving quick, nutritious and affordable Poke and Acai Bowls. Originally, the restaurant was scheduled to open in early 2020, but was put on hold due to the pandemic. To keep the momentum and interest going, The Poke Bowl attended pop-up and private events and now are slated to open the restaurant Fall 2022 with the help of the Elevate grant. The restaurant will operate out of a Habitat-for-Humanity Live/Work building, using Elevate funds mainly to purchase dining furniture and commercial kitchen equipment. Remaining funds will be used towards hiring employees with paid training, uniforms and new point-of-sale equipment.

THE LAB

- **Warsaw, IN**
- **Grant Amount:** \$20,000
- **Member:** 1st Source Bank

- The Lab is a full-service tech repair shop for mobile devices, computers, PCB components, data recovery/transfer, software and more. To better serve their clients in the Warsaw area and beyond, The Lab will be purchasing and building a complete mobile repair van. The Elevate grant will be specifically used to buildout working space for a technician, storage for tools & products and a custom wrap for the van.

FLINT TRADING CO. LLC

- **Flint, MI**
- **Grant Amount:** \$20,000
- **Member:** Metro Community Development, Inc

- Flint Trading Co. is a highly customized art jewelry store and small gallery featuring the work of Michigan artists. Elevate funds will be used to purchase a Starweld Basic XE power welder that will greatly increase efficiency and limit the expense of outsourcing. The addition of the welding equipment will shorten turn times for projects and increase the owner-artists capacity to produce unique jewelry lines and custom requests.