

**COMMEMORATING 45 YEARS OF SUCCESS** 

## MAKING OUR MAKING OUR

Growing, partnering and transforming Connecticut's small businesses, non-profits and local communities

## **ABOUT US**

#### SHOWING SMALL BUSINESSES AND NON-PROFIT

#### ORGANIZATIONS THE PATH TO SUCCESS



#### **ABOUT OUR COMPANY**

Created in 1975, HEDCO Inc. continues to provide mission focused loans to help clients and their communities improve, achieve and succeed by supporting their growth and progress. As part of our commitment to economic growth, we turn understanding into action. We build productive partnerships, create new programs to meet the changing needs of entrepreneurs and increase the funds available to help people build and improve their business or non-profit organizations. What makes our business model unique are the motivations behind our lending, the sizes of our loans, and the people involved in the process. We understand that fostering entrepreneurship in low-income communities is a proven path to prosperity. We derive satisfaction by seeing people transform an idea, a dream or a passion into a thriving business.

#### **EST - 1975**

OUR EXPERIENCED STAFF
MEMBERS ARE PROBLEM
SOLVERS WHO PROVIDE A
PERSONAL TOUCH AND ARE
ACCESSIBLE WHEN YOU
NEED THEM. FOR OVER 40
YEARS WE'VE OFFERED:

- Free business advisory services
- Low Interest loans with flexible terms
- Revolving loan funds
- Technical assistance



#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

#### **BOARD MEMBERS**

Barbara J. Randolph Chairwoman

> Eric C. Bauer Vice Chairman

Edward J. Samorajczyk

Paul Perakos Assistant Secretary Marianne Stowell Treasurer

Wayne Benjamin Assistant Treasurer

**Julio Mendoza** Nomination Committee Chairman Michael Casparino
Don Chapman
Michele M. Frey
Jeff Hubbard
Sheila S. Hummel
Andreas Kapetanopoulos
Ana Alfaro

Alan Lazowski Fernando G. Rosa Nicholas Seminara George Swepson Pauline Yoder David Cabezas Donte Fazzina



### LETTER FROM THE CHAIRWOMAN

#### Dear Friends,

2020 is a landmark year for HEDCO, Inc. as we celebrate our 45th anniversary and our 45th consecutive year of growth, driven by strong partnerships, our center of excellence and our high performing culture. 2020 also reflects another year in which our employees once again showed great commitment to drive the success of our company. In the midst of the pandemic, our dedicated staff is doing an incredible job at expanding our outreach while strengthening our programs and services. As you are aware an outbreak of a new strain of coronavirus ("COVID-19") was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization in 2020. Due to the crucial role we play in assisting minority owned small businesses and community growth, HEDCO is considered an essential business and continued to operate under state-of-emergency and stay-at-home orders.

HEDCO remained committed to assisting customers as they work to stay afloat. We are extending our partnerships and making adjustments to align with our customer needs and operating conditions. HEDCO has become a premier resource for navigating Covid-19 by...

- · Implementing operational excellence in responding to our current and potential customers' evolving needs in a cost-effective manner. Operational excellence in today's world is enabled by best-in-class technology, which we are using in a number of ways to increase efficiency across HEDCO.
- Spearheading the COVID-19 Business Response Program. • Temporarily closing offices to prevent exposure to and the potential spread of the virus. Each employee is working remotely, is accessible by email and will be responsive to your communication attempts.
- Providing virtual training workshops and seminars.
- Establishing an emergency response team starting with our CEO, Fernando Rosa.

We will continue to deepen relationships with consumers, funding partners and local and state agencies in Connecticut. Our goal is to improve the financial outlook for small businesses and create entrepreneurial experiences that will aid business owners in reaching optimal performance.

As you read this year's report, vou'll see there's a lot worth celebrating. From witnessing the growth of long-running programs to seeing new efforts get underway, 2020 has reinforced how important our work is in sparking economic growth, developing equity among business owners and supporting and investing in small, local businesses. We are proud of the past forty-five years and have highlighted our success by the decade in this year's report.

The evolution of our company has been exceptional.
On behalf of the Board of Directors and myself, I sincerely thank all our advocates, funding partners, clients, employees and friends — we are stronger because of you.

BARBARA J. RANDOLPH

**CHAIRWOMAN OF THE BOARD** 

## State of Financial Position



Year End June 30, 2020 & 2019

ASSETS	2020	2019
Cash	10,984,915	10,280,031
Investments, at fair value	633,816	592,579
Loans receivable, net of allowance	28,104,220	23,924,543
Accounts and grants receivable	265,118	227,686
Furniture and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation	87,303	34,193
Prepaid expenses and other assets	170,600	170,600
Other real estate owned	_	80,000

\$40,245,972 \$35,809,632

**LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS** 

#### Liabilities

**Total Assets** 

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	204,190	224,492
Refundable Advance	5,000,00	_
Loans payable	15,490,872	15,298,296
Total Liabilities	20,695,062	5,174,274
Net Assets		
Without donor restrictions	15,114,348	13,406,582
With donor restrictions	4,436,562	6,380,262
Total Net Assets	19.550.910	19,786,844

**Total Liabilities & Net Assets** 

\$40,245,972 \$35,809,632

## HEDCO INC. TIMELINE

### SHOWING STARTUPS & SMALL BUSINESSES THE PATH TO SUCCESS

45
YEARS

#### 1975-1984

- 1975 Hartford Economic Development Corporation (HEDCo) was incorporated as a Small Business Technical Assistance agency.
- Received 250K in CDBG funding (Community Development Block Grant).
- 1984 begins lending for SBA and corporate funding.



#### 2005 - 2014

- HEDCo and GHBDC merge and become HEDCO, Inc. June 1, 2011.
- Footprint for newly merged entity expands to all 169 towns and cities in CT from 57 in prior decades.
- The Business Resource Center opens to provide one-stop technical assistance in rapidly expanding client base in multiple stages of entrepreneurial development.
- HEDCO added and expanded the Contractors Revolving loan fund Program.
- HEDCO in partnership with The Travelers and the DECD created a Bond Guarantee Program for women and minority businesses throughout the state of CT.

#### 1985-1994

- HEDCo and the Greater Hartford Business
   Development Center (GHBDC) formed a partnership to provide lending to small businesses.
- MRLF program added to services.
- Expansion of service area from City of Hartford to Metro Hartford region.
- HEDCo, UCONN and the Hartford Women's College initiated the Women's Enterprise Development Program funded by the Travelers.

## 1995-2004

- HEDCo and GHBDC selected to be lenders for the State of CT Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) Loan programs.
- Selected by the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving to administer and provide loan to nonprofit agencies in the HFPG service areas.
- Began revolving loan fund program for minority and women owned construction companies.
- Expanded lending program with the SBA.
- Footprints expands from Metro Hartford region.

#### 2015 - 2020

- HEDCO, Inc. awarded a 25 million dollar Minority Business Revolving Loan Fund (MBRLF) program through the State of CT DECD in partnership with the Spanish American Merchants Association (SAMA).
- COVID-19 Relief: HEDCO worked with the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving to establish a special program for nonprofits impacted by COVID-19.
- Partnered with the State of CT DECD and the Connecticut Minority Business Initiative to administer a 5 million dollar grant program to be used to support women and minority owned small businesses affected by COVID-19.





1975 1984







**22%** 1985 1994 increase

47% 1995 2004 increase

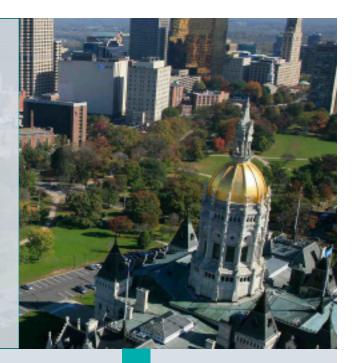
2005 204% 2014 increase

2015 74% 2020 increase





Supporting our customer
base from end to end, we
provide the tools that open
the door to becoming an
entrepreneur from concept to
network to business owner.







## MERCHANT REVOLVING LOAN FUND

Our Merchant Revolving Loan
Fund (MRLF) Program has been in
existence since 1983 and is funded
by CDBG (Community Development
Block Grant) through the City of
Hartford. This program has enabled
HEDCO to help hundreds of small
businesses throughout four specific
corridors within the City. MRLF is
designed to ensure new and existing
business owners have access to
the capital they need to promote
economic growth, ultimately driving
job creation and retention.



#### **MBRLF PROGRAM**

## MINORITY BUSINESS REVOLVING LOAN FUND

Our Minority Business Revolving
Loan Fund (MBRLF) Program is
administered by the Department
of Economic and Community
Development (DECD). The MBRLF
provides opportunities for minority
owned and/or women owned
entrepreneur/business owners
throughout the state of Connecticut.
This program's success relies on
its ability to help new and existing
business owners gain access to
capital in order to start or grow their
business.



#### COVID-19

## THE COVID-19 BUSINESS RESPONSE PROGRAM

The COVID-19 Business Response
Program is a direct response
to the coronavirus pandemic.
HEDCO partnered with the state
Department of Economic and
Community Development (DECD)
and the Connecticut Minority
Business Initiative on a financial relief
program for minority owned and
women-owned small businesses that
have been negatively impacted by
the coronavirus pandemic.

# HEDCO Annual Report

#### SOLUTIONS

### WE ENVISION A FINANCIALLY INCLUSIVE **SOCIETY WHERE MINORITY BUSINESS OWNERS HOLD THE POWER TO IMPROVE** LIVES AND COMMUNITIES.

#### **SOLUTIONS FOR SUCCESS**



#### **FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

As small business clientele require access to capital needs that would be otherwise unmet or underserved, we look for ways to provide hope and opportunity for people to realize their dream businesses, create financial freedom and contribute to their communities through job creation and needed services. HEDCO seeks to ensure that our loan programs are representative of today's market. We continue to develop and offer small businesses and non-profit organizations flexible and affordable loan options that fit their needs.

#### **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

As a growing percentage of small business owners require assistance to get started and create opportunity for sustainable growth, HEDCO created and implemented "The Business Resource Center (BRC)" to provide a wide array of programs, support services and resources to local businesses. "The Business Resource Center (BRC)," is a one-stop service center that houses HEDCO's technical assistance programming and support services. With the evolution of technology entrepreneurs have access to markets and more capabilities to start and expand their businesses. However, not all entrepreneurs have the resources or the business acumen required to start up and maintain a business. The Business Incubator Program, training classroom, team of experienced business professionals and experts continue to support our clients and look for opportunities to assist with changing business needs.

#### TRAINING PLATFORM

Ongoing business training is an essential component to bridging the gap between expectation and performance. The ability to remain relevant and competitive in the current marketplace requires constant personal and professional development. Our "Business Resource University" provides training classes designed to equip small business owners with the tools necessary for success. Key topics of discussion include business management, marketing, finance and the legal arena. Our interactive training classes are two-fold, they help to engage the business owners and reinvigorate the classroom by changing lectures into discussions and along the way business owners and instructors become partners in the journey of knowledge acquisition.



#### PROVIDING SERVICES TO **HELP CLIENTS ACHIEVE** RESULTS

HEDCO, Inc., strengthens Connecticut's economy by assisting startups and small businesses through the power of the incubator program, creating sustainable outcomes and increasing market share. Our business model helps to ensure that we are nimble in our response to changing environments and delivering programs that meet the needs of our clients. The areas highlighted influence HEDCO's strategic outlook, allow us to deliver on our promises and ensure successful business outcomes. On an annual basis, we review and improve upon these influences as they directly enhance our current programs and the implementation of new programs.



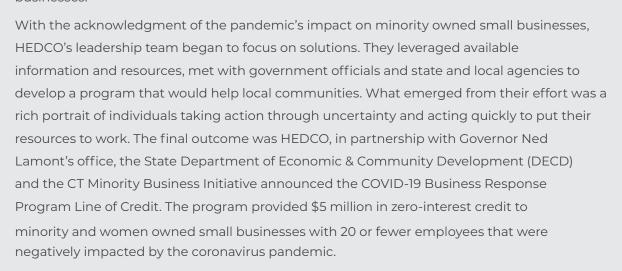
## BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS FOR WHAT'S NEXT:





#### WE'RE HERE TO HELP

As seen through the coronavirus pandemic minority owned small businesses face structural challenges that underscore the underlying economic vulnerability of underrepresented groups, including the Black and Latinx communities. This is according to a special report released by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and MetLife. Minority owned business owners are more likely than non minority owners to report difficulty obtaining loans, express fears about permanently closing, and predict declining revenues in the coming year. This revelation will directly affect the health and stability of minority owned small businesses. Additionally, the Federal Reserve Bank reported that minority owned small businesses were significantly more likely to show signs of limited financial health—by factors such as profitability and credit scores, they are also twice as likely to be classified as "at risk" or "distressed" than non minority owned small businesses.



Qualified applicants were required to have a minimum of 51% of minority/women ownership; "good standing" with the Department of Revenue Services (DRS); and were conducting business for at least 6 months. As a result, we processed 478 loans through the COVID-19 Business Response Program Line of Credit to help businesses remain operational during the pandemic.







age No

## **HEDCO Annual Report** | 2020

#### WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER

## **TESTIMONIALS AND SPONSORSHIP THROUGH COVID-19**



"I really appreciate HEDCO for their assistance during COVID-19 and for

## Serenity Designs LLC

"HEDCO's Covid-19 grant helped her business a lot and she is very grateful for it."

Silhouettes Hair Salon Alexandra

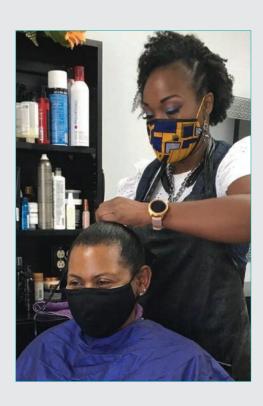
"I just wanted to thank you for your generosity, gifting me the much needed the PPE for my salon. I go through so many gloves (especially now) and haven't been able to procure KN95 masks at a reasonable and affordable price.

It was so kind of you to personally deliver as I know you are based out of Hartford and it's a long drive. I was so taken off guard and at first thought you were trying to sell me something LOL!!

Again, I just wanted to let you know how much I appreciate what you ladies do for us!!

Wishing you both peace, good health, and the promise of a better future for us all"

Robert Christie Salon Sue Camarda





## OUR TEAM



#### **EXECUTIVE TEAM**

FERNANDO G. ROSA



President & Chief Executive Officer

#### KIM B. HAWKINS



Vice President & Chief Operating Officer



#### **TEAM MEMBERS**

#### Patricia R. Geronimo

Chief Financial Officer

#### **Daisy Butler**

Administrative Specialist, **Business Resource Center** 

#### Thuvan Dinh

Loan Administration Specialist

#### **Enrico Mendes**

Senior Business Development Officer

#### **Jimmy McMikle**

**Business Development Officer** 

#### **Morgan Randolph**

Business Development Officer

#### John E. Robinson

**Business Development Officer** 

#### **Linda Pines**

**Executive Assistant** 

## **OUR FUNDING PARTNERS**

Bank of America Berkshire Bank Citizens Bank City of Hartford Connecticut Department of Economic & Community Development (DECD)

Farmington Bank Hartford Foundation for Public Giving Key Bank Laz Parking Peoples United Bank Prudential Foundation Santander Bank

Savings Bank of Danbury SBA Microloan Program SBA Prime TD Bank The Travelers Webster Bank



"TO MOVE THE WORLD, WE MUST FIRST MOVE OURSELVES"

SOCRATES

#### HEDCO, Inc.

207 Main Street 4th Floor Hartford, CT 06106

#### **Business Resource Center**

207 Main Street 3rd Floor Hartford, CT 06106

#### **Consultation and Text: Katonya Hughey**

President of Juene' Consulting LLC

#### **Creative Design:**

**Exclusive Linez** 

Photo's of HEDCO, Inc. Team

William Pettigrew

