

PRESS RELEASE

Dated: June 23, 2004
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SMALL BUSINESSES ARE PUSHING THE ECONOMY AROUND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION EXPANDS TO ASSIST THESE EFFORTS

Economic Development Foundation – Certified expands operations from 15 counties to the entire State of Michigan. Our goal is to provide access to the SBA 504 loan program to all the small businesses which are looking to grow and expand. In order to continue to expand our services, we have formed loan committees servicing the greater Kalamazoo area, the Grand Traverse Region as well as our long-standing Grand Rapids committee. Our loan committees are made up of local business owners, community members, commercial lenders and government representatives who have a passion for economic development.

Since expanding to a statewide area of operations, Economic Development Foundation has approved a record number of deals as well as pushed to the largest volume year to date amongst its competitors. “We have been thrilled to approve over 30 loans this year,” reports Jennifer Okhuysen, Executive Director. “The number of loans isn’t as significant as the full impact the development has on our communities. Each loan represents an investment in our economy either through dollars spent, new jobs created or other economic development that has been achieved.”

Economic Development Foundation – Certified has been financing growing businesses in Michigan since 1981 and specializes in the SBA 504 loan program. SBA 504 allows businesses to access bond financing rates for the purchase of a building, construction of a new building or the purchase of machinery and equipment. The benefits of the program include a low down payment, fixed interest rate and a long term on the financing.

“Our economic development staff is professional, knowledgeable, and most importantly, dedicated to assisting small businesses in obtaining access to capital. I firmly believe that the growth of our small businesses is the economic security of our future.”