



# Opportunity Finance Network: Member Profile



## Forward Community Investments

Madison, WI

Forward Community Investments (FCI) is dedicated to building the financial capacity of Wisconsin's nonprofits by providing low-interest loans and high-quality technical assistance. Originally established in 1994 to serve Dane County, FCI expanded its service area to include the entire state in 2005. The organization has provided financing and technical assistance to help more than 30 nonprofits involved in a wide range of activities—developing affordable housing, providing critical social services, and improving economic development—increase their impact in the low- and moderate-income communities they serve.

### Success Story: Southwestern Wisconsin Community Action Program, Dodgeville, WI

A \$246,000 loan from FCI enabled SWCAP, a nonprofit anti-poverty agency established in 1966, to purchase and renovate a building in Dodgeville to create affordable office space for eight local nonprofits, including a free clinic. The facility offers low- and moderate-income people convenient access to a variety of essential services, many of which are not available elsewhere in the county.

*"Without Forward Community Investments and a willingness to provide non-traditional financing, we would not be able to provide these programs."*

*Wally Orzechowski*

*Executive Director, Southwestern Wisconsin Community Action Program*



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

#### Address:

Forward Community Investments  
211 South Paterson Street, Suite 160  
Madison, WI 53703

Phone: 608.257.3863  
Fax: 608.257.2372  
Email: [sallim@forwardci.org](mailto:sallim@forwardci.org)

### Mission

Forward Community Investments is a community development loan fund that provides financial and technical resources to organizations that serve to enhance the lives of low-wealth persons and communities in Wisconsin.

### Products and services

- A full range of loan products, including predevelopment loans, construction loans, real estate loans, and equipment loans
- Technical assistance for borrowers on a variety of issues ranging from real estate to finance to management

### Financial and social impact

- Financing disbursed = More than \$15 million
- Additional public and private sector capital leveraged = \$31.5 million
- Affordable housing units created or retained = Nearly 500
- Jobs created = More than 485
- Jobs retained = More than 2,200
- New or rehabilitated nonprofit facility space developed = More than 540,000 square feet