MaryAnn Lewellyn has always had an eye for opportunity and a visionary mindset. She worked as a nurse and caregiver for most of her life and saw an unmet need for assisted living. She is now the owner and operator of Wildwood Assisted Living in partnership with her son, Tom.

The mother-son team have completed a total of four major projects, Wildwood being their signature property. The need for assisted living is increasing as the population of Minnesota continues to age. Wildwood offers comprehensive care and full medical services to its residents. Since its purchase, Wildwood’s business has bloomed to a total of 21 employees and a growing list of residents.

The pair has had a long relationship with the SBDC and business consultant, Bruce Thielman, spanning over eight years. Bruce’s unique skillset in banking and project development has encouraged MaryAnn to continue to work with the SBDC. MaryAnn attributes her success to the formation of a long-standing business team including engineers, architects, lenders, and consultants that continue to challenge her in new endeavors.

MaryAnn’s advice to business owners is, “Never lose sight of your mission!” She has also said that the involvement of the SBDC has been a contributing factor to Wildwood’s success and growth.
Partners in Success

Our partners share in the vision for Minnesota’s business success and recognize the positive relationship between nurturing small businesses and the well-being of their communities, regions, and the state. Funding for the program comes from the U.S. Small Business Administration, the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, and our most important local partners—the institutions of higher learning that host our regional centers.

Other local funding partners include many community lenders, economic development organizations, corporate donors, and private individuals. We’re so grateful for their incredible continuing commitment to this program. Together, we are helping businesses start, grow, and succeed.

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