

# Southwest

## Small Business Development Center

### Southwest Region SBDC Success Story

Dr. Stacy Lewison has always been committed to providing the community with the best care for their pets and continued that tradition by opening **Lakeside Companion Animal Clinic** in Cottonwood in December of 2013. The high tech, small animal clinic offers services for all dogs and cats whose owners are seeking a state-of-the-art veterinary facility that cares for their pets with loving care and professionalism.



The Southwest Small Business Development Center was the first contact Dr. Lewison made when trying to determine how to go about starting the business. Both of her brothers used the services of the Southwest SBDC when they started their businesses, and they strongly recommended that Dr. Lewison reach out to the SBDC in the early planning stages.

Ruth Ann Karty, SBDC Business Consultant, connected with Stacy and provided direction with a feasibility study, hiring employees and general business management. Ruth Ann also provided cash flow analysis, sales projections and other financial information pertinent for Stacy to determine if a veterinary practice of her own was to become a reality.

Dr. Lewison is quick to state that she was not someone who ever had aspirations of being a business owner. "However, when my desire to practice medicine my own way necessitated owning my own practice, the SBDC was essential in transforming an abstract idea into a reality." She went on to say, "Ruth Ann provided the perfect ratio of educated encouragement to thoughtful reality".

As a successful practice and at the rate the business is growing, Dr. Lewison has plans to add another doctor in the spring of 2018. The building may need to grow to accommodate both doctors, but according to Dr. Lewison, "It will be an exciting change."



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# 2016 HIGHLIGHTS



**\$11M**

Capital Accessed  
for Business  
Investment

**579**

Jobs Created  
and Saved



**25**

New  
Businesses  
Created

**3,383**

Hours of  
Consulting  
Services



**257**

Entrepreneurs  
and Businesses  
Served

**\$7.1M**

Business  
Revenue  
Increased



# Southwest Small Business Development Center

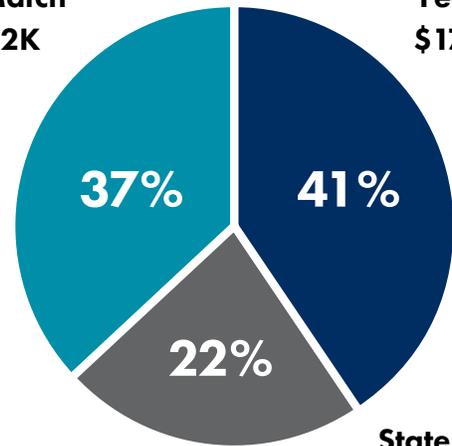
## Partners in Success

Our partners share in the vision for Minnesota's business success and recognize the positive relationship between nurturing small business 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 grow, start, and succeed.

## 2016 Southwest SBDC Funding

Local Match  
\$161.2K

Federal  
\$178.5K



State Match  
\$98.8K

## Southwest SBDC Funding Partners

### HOST INSTITUTION



### GOLD PARTNERS



### SILVER PARTNERS

Cottonwood County • Dakota Futures, Inc. • Lac Qui Parle County  
Minnesota Valley TV • Murray County • Nobles County



U.S. Small Business Administration



[www.mnsbdc.com](http://www.mnsbdc.com)

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