

Small Business Development Center helps turn misfortune into opportunity

Hotel Rio Vista, Winthrop

After her thriving hotel in the heart of Winthrop, burned to the ground in May 2002, Lucinda McAllister decided to turn her misfortune into an opportunity to expand the hotel and, in a sense, rebuild her business “out of the ashes”. To do it, she turned to the Okanogan SBDC. After receiving assistance with projecting financial operating costs, creating a start-up cost budget for the expansion, and compiling a loan application package, Lucinda was able to obtain the extra capital she needed to allow construction on the new hotel expansion in October 2002.

The hotel added 2 – 3 new jobs in addition to the 7 jobs that were saved. More importantly, thanks to the assistance of the SBDC advisor, a key member of the downtown community will be able to contribute to a local economy highly dependent on tourist dollars.



Small Business Development Center (SBDC). Certified Business Advisors provide no-cost, confidential advice on a variety of management topics. The Washington SBDC is a partnership between the US SBA, WSU, and local partners. The SBDC is located in the Economic Alliance offices at 320 Omak Ave, in Omak, WA 509 826-5107.

