This year’s report explores the impact that you all—investors, funders, supporters, portfolio partners, and advisors—have empowered us to create in 2012. Calvert Foundation typically lends to those organizations that invest in entrepreneurs and organizations at the grassroots level. While our position as a financial intermediary can make it challenging to quantify the end impact of our lending, it also provides us a unique vantage point, a perspective on trends and shifts in the broader impact investing industry. Organizations from a variety of industries, from affordable housing to education to fair trade agriculture, depend on our financing to sustain and grow their programs. We closed out 2012 with $183 million invested in 168 organizations worldwide.

Individual and institutional investors act as the “engine” to power that lending. As of year-end 2012 they had more than $234 million invested in our Community Investment Note, which remains one of the most accessible impact investments available in the marketplace. We continue to strengthen relationships with financial advisors to offer the Note to their clients through their brokerage and retirement accounts. And through social media and online networks, we’re exploring how people can use the Note to more directly support the causes that inspire them.

We slimmed down this year’s report in the spirit of reducing our paper footprint and encouraging you to engage with us on our updated website. There you’ll find more detailed impact metrics, stories, and impact measurement methodology.

“I am proud to be a part of the network of individuals trying to do some good with their money and investments.”

—Miriam Sexton
Invest In Your Cause

Through the launch of the WIN-WIN program in March 2012, we’re seeing how people who are passionate about women’s empowerment are using social media and online networks to express their support. More than 530 individuals invested in WIN-WIN online, representing 87 percent of the total number of investors. As of year-end 2012, we’ve disbursed nearly $10 million to the 11 organizations in the WIN-WIN portfolio. We’re building on this way of engaging more directly with individuals by creating investment opportunities in cities and diaspora communities in the U.S.

Juster Petersen, U.S.

With a loan from our WIN-WIN portfolio partner Juster Petersen, Michelle Wright grew her day care center into a full-service facility in Cahokia, IL. She doubled enrollment from 35 to 76 children, increased her staff from six to 17, and started a preschool offering free education to at-risk children.

Naranjillo, Peru

Naranjillo is a Peruvian cooperative that helps small farmers secure fair prices for their cocoa and coffee products. Through our lending facility with Alterfin, Naranjillo can provide its members with much-needed services, including credit and savings, technical assistance, and health insurance.

Accion Texas, U.S.

With a loan from Accion Texas, Eric Medina was able to expand his custom poker tables business. Our lending enables Accion Texas to expand its loan fund, helping entrepreneurs like Eric increase their own incomes, create employment, and contribute to the economic development of their communities.

Flexible Lending

The changing financial needs of our portfolio partners continue to shape our lending strategy. In 2012 we expanded our project-based financing with some of our strongest partners. One of those partners is Belgium-based Alterfin, with whom we recently established a lending participation facility to increase our support for small coffee cooperatives in Latin America and Africa. As of year-end 2012, we had $9 million invested in 11 organizations working in fair trade, which were supporting 12,900 farmers. Through our lending we’re empowering our portfolio partners to create positive change at the grassroots level.

Investing Locally

The local movement has picked up steam in the past few years, and to good effect: shopping, eating, and banking locally supports small businesses, jobs creation, and community development. Since 2003, we’ve enabled people to target their investments to eight geographic regions in the U.S. The organizations our investors support contribute to local economic development in a variety of ways, from developing affordable housing to creating jobs for at-risk youth. In 2012, 219 small businesses were able to get financing through our lending, resulting in the creation or retention of 1,700 jobs.

Measuring Impact

To ensure that our investors and other stakeholders understand the impact that we’re creating, we use third party certifications and industry-standard performance indicators including CARS and IRIS.

“I don’t have much money to invest but with you I feel as though I am helping some people less fortunate than me.”
—John Carlson

“It’s a fantastic way to directly be involved with issues important to me.”
—Kyle Denny

Healthy Communities +
Women’s Empowerment +
Financial Inclusion +
Environmental +
Affordable Housing +
Job Creation +
“Invest in
Your Cause”