

BUSINESS COMMUNITY OWNERSHIP FUND

Invested. Empowered. Rooted.

 Seattle Office of
Economic Development

 Grow
America



PICTURED: Sergio Max Legon-Talamoni (left) and Sonia-Lynn Abenojar of La Union Studio, BCO Fund partner

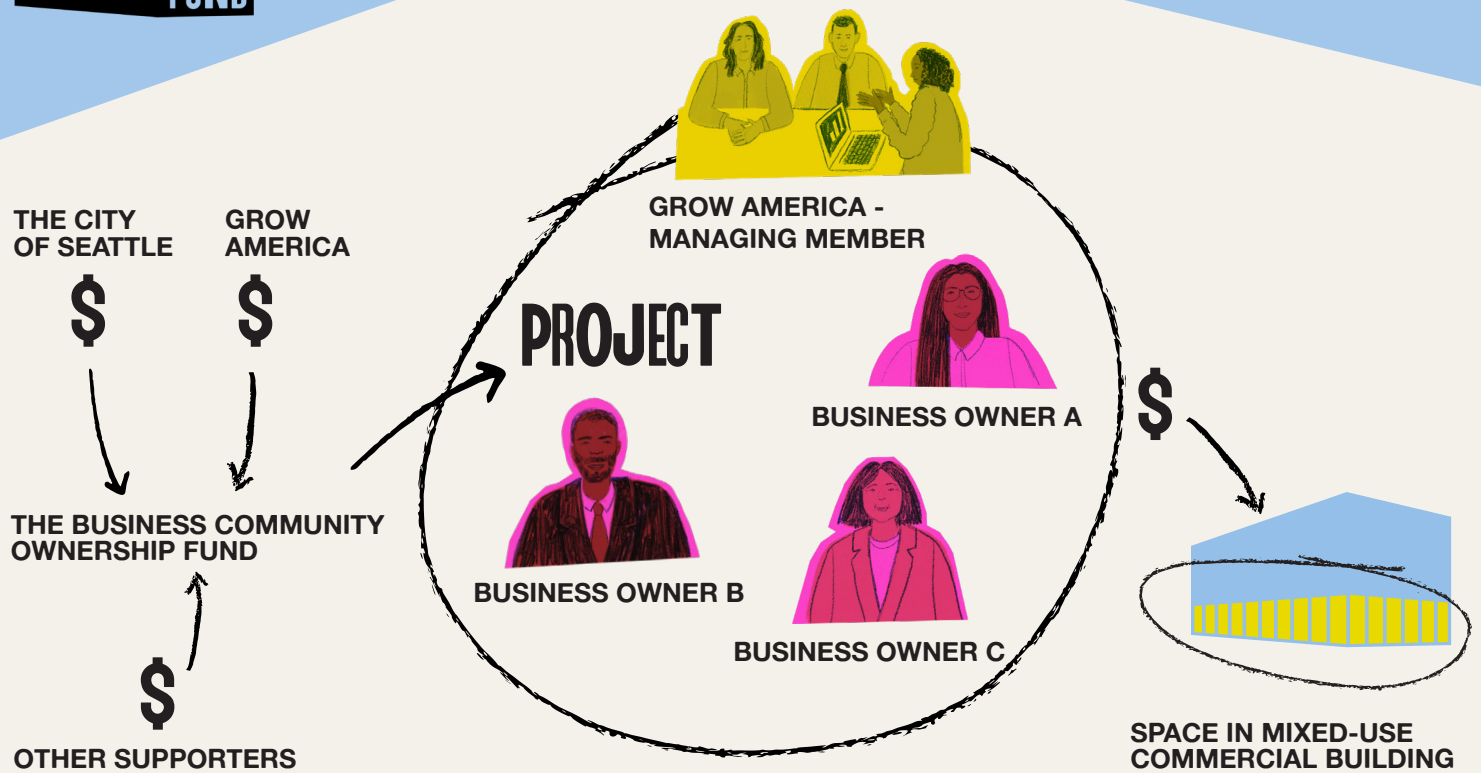
COMMERCIAL RENT IN SEATTLE IS BECOMING UNSUSTAINABLE.

Businesses in Seattle's historic BIPOC neighborhoods are experiencing increased rates of displacement.

Many of these businesses are owned by people of color, immigrants, women, and LGBTQ+ people.

The BCO Fund aims to:

- Keep current small businesses owned by Black, Indigenous, and people of color in Seattle neighborhoods
- Create a pathway for securing commercial real estate for businesses that have been displaced or unable to establish a business in Seattle due to the rising costs of commercial rents
- Build business owners' financial security and economic independence
- Increase business income and value by providing owners long-term stability and control



HOW IT WORKS

- 1 The BCO Fund invests in commercial spaces in Seattle neighborhoods, physically rooting businesses at the highest risk of displacement.
- 2 The Fund creates an LLC to invest in each project. Multiple business owners become members of the LLC, which purchases the property those businesses will occupy. Financing is secured by the Grow America as a managing member.
- 3 Tax benefits from real estate can benefit business owners.

BENEFITS

- Stable, affordable rent
- Permanent physical space
- A community of support with other business owners
- Access to tools and resources that promote future growth
- Lower occupancy costs keep businesses in place
- Displaced BIPOC, LGBTQ+, immigrant and women business owners can return to their communities
- Increased business income goes directly to owners



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Learn more at
bitly.com/BCOFund

Chuck Depew, Managing Senior Director
CDepew@growamerica.org

Heidi Hall, Wealth Building Manager,
Office of Economic Development
heidi.hall@seattle.gov