Most people in the developing world work for very small businesses that struggle to find the affordable capital they need to grow and create more jobs. Thrive directly addresses this need by providing “pay-it-forward” loans called ThriveCapital.

What makes ThriveCapital loans different?

- The loans are not repaid in cash. Instead Thrive entrepreneurs donate an equivalent value of job training or income-enhancing products and services, so people with few good options can support themselves through their own hard work.
- The loans are made possible by donors like you seeking to enable people living in poverty to find jobs and help businesses have a positive impact on their communities.

(TOP RIGHT) Thanks to your support, Babu Garments (Vietnam) is becoming a great job creator in their first year with Thrive! Babu’s owners Ngo Van Hien and Bui Thu Huong grew their business so much after receiving new sewing machines from Thrive that they added 12 new full time jobs. Their current staff of 27 includes 4 deaf young adults trained as part of their repayment to Thrive.

20-year-old trainee and employee Dang Van Kien shared, “I was born deaf and had managed to find only a very low paying and unstable job in a garment company. Now I have learned new skills at Babu, I have started to make a stable salary, and I can even save every month. My life has improved so much!”

(BOTTOM RIGHT) Viva Hair Salon (Kenya), owned by Teresiah Joseph (pictured in the green smock), is already a success story in her first year with Thrive. New equipment from Thrive enabled her to move to a new location, expand her services, and increase her total sales by 100%. She more than doubled her employees from 6 to 13.

So far she’s trained 8 women in beauty and hairdressing and hired 6 of them at Viva. Two of her trainees work at other beauty shops. One single mom she trained, Mary, who has 2 kids, used to barely scrape by as domestic help with very low pay. She has no family to help her and couldn’t even afford school fees. Now she is proud to work for Viva. “I am now in a position to earn more and support my family.”
YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT HELPS THRIVE ENTREPRENEURS TEACH JOB SKILLS TO PEOPLE IN NEED, HELPING THEM TO FIND EMPLOYMENT

(TOP RIGHT) In Cambodia, about 20% of the population age 15 and up cannot read or write. That makes it extremely difficult for them to learn the skills required to get jobs. Asian Happiness Laundry (Cambodia) owners Sun Sovandy (pictured in pink) and San Soktheth trained 11 unskilled local people in professional laundry skills as repayment for their Thrive loan.

They hired 2 trainees to work at the new shop they opened after receiving ThriveCapital, and 9 found jobs at other places. Trainee Chherm Touch said, “Thanks to the new skills, now I have a proper job and a suitable wage that can improve my family condition.”

596 UNSKILLED AND POOR INDIVIDUALS RECEIVED JOB TRAINING TO SUPPORT THEMSELVES AND THEIR FAMILIES

63% OF THESE THRIVE TRAINEES FOUND JOBS

THRIIVE ENTREPRENEURS CREATE NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR MANY IN VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES

(BOTTOM RIGHT) In Guatemala, life can be extremely difficult for indigenous populations. This is especially true for women, many of whom are single mothers. A rapidly changing climate and expanding industrial agriculture make the subsistence farming they rely on for food more difficult each year. Lacking job skills and options for childcare, many of these women have nowhere to turn and desperately flee to the US, where they are mostly turned away.

Because of donors like you, María Ruiz and her husband Carlos of Industrias Alimenticias ByR helped 15 of these women by training them to preserve and sell their fruits and vegetables. This not only generates income for these women, but also enables them to keep the food they grow for longer, helping to feed their families. María and Carlos are also donating ready-to-sell products to another 6 women who don’t have the ability to produce them. With your continued support, more businesses like Industrias can make a difference in the lives of indigenous Guatemalan women and their children.

OVER 13,000 PEOPLE WERE HELPED WITH DONATIONS OF JOB TRAINING AND BASIC NEEDS
DESPITE ONGOING TURMOIL IN NICARAGUA, THRIVE CONTINUES STANDING BEHIND SMALL BUSINESSES AND THEIR COMMUNITIES

Political turmoil in 2018 caused Nicaragua’s economy to weaken significantly, causing 30% of businesses to close according to the local chamber of commerce. Thanks to your generosity, all Thrive businesses remain open and are working hard to keep their people employed.

Over the years, President Daniel Ortega created a corrupt dictatorship, appointing his wife as vice-president, stifling free speech, and eliminating a free press. In April, the Nicaraguan people stood up for their rights through peaceful protests demanding Ortega resign. The government responded with force, killing many protesters and arresting others. Due to the violence, banks stopped lending, unemployment rates skyrocketed, and small businesses struggled to survive.

Nicaragua remains unstable with its future uncertain, so Thrive did not select a new class of businesses in 2018, instead focusing on ways to help our current entrepreneurs stay afloat.

The new Thrive Emergency Working Capital Fund provides low-interest loans for the pressing needs of Thrive businesses. With your help, Thrive can enable businesses to remain open, maintain current employees, and create new jobs. 16 Thrive businesses are now part of the new fund, in industries ranging from food services and agriculture to education and carpentry.

WITH YOUR SUPPORT, THRIVE IS HELPING NICARAGUAN BUSINESSES STAY AFLOAT

Lesbia Cárcamo Narváez (pictured here), owner of Conserva de Frutas Cárcamo, is steering her business and employees through the crisis while still repaying her ThriveCapital loan. She trained 20 poor women to produce and sell jams and milk candies and organized a local farmers market in León where they can generate additional income. Lesbia is just one example of Thrive businesses continuing to impact their communities because of the generous support of Thrive donors.
2018 FINANCES

DONATION INCOME

51% Individuals
49% Foundations

Individuals: $769,732
Foundations: $743,190
Total: $1,512,922

EXPENDITURES

80% Programs
12% Management
8% Fundraising

Programs: $1,040,756
Management: $159,024
Fundraising: $102,931
Total: $1,302,711

Complete financials available at thrive.org

U.S. STAFF

Erik Schultz
Executive Director
Co-Founder

Linn Kincannon
International Director
Co-Founder

Laurel Williams
Chief Operations & Financial Officer

Huyen Huong
International Program Officer

Kellen Williams
Operations and Programs Officer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Einar Schultz
Oslo, Norway

Erik Schultz
Ketchum, ID, USA
ABOVE: Organic Home and Delivery (Cambodia) owners Rich Chamroeurn and Chum Sokphea were selected in the new class of Thrive entrepreneurs in Cambodia for their passion in growing their organic food store and their commitment to training unskilled young adults in their community.

LOCAL PARTNERS

Give Today!

thrive.org

Thrive is a U.S. 501(c)(3) nonprofit and your donation is fully tax-deductible.