



# 2022 Annual Report



# Non-Extractive Lending

\$500,000+

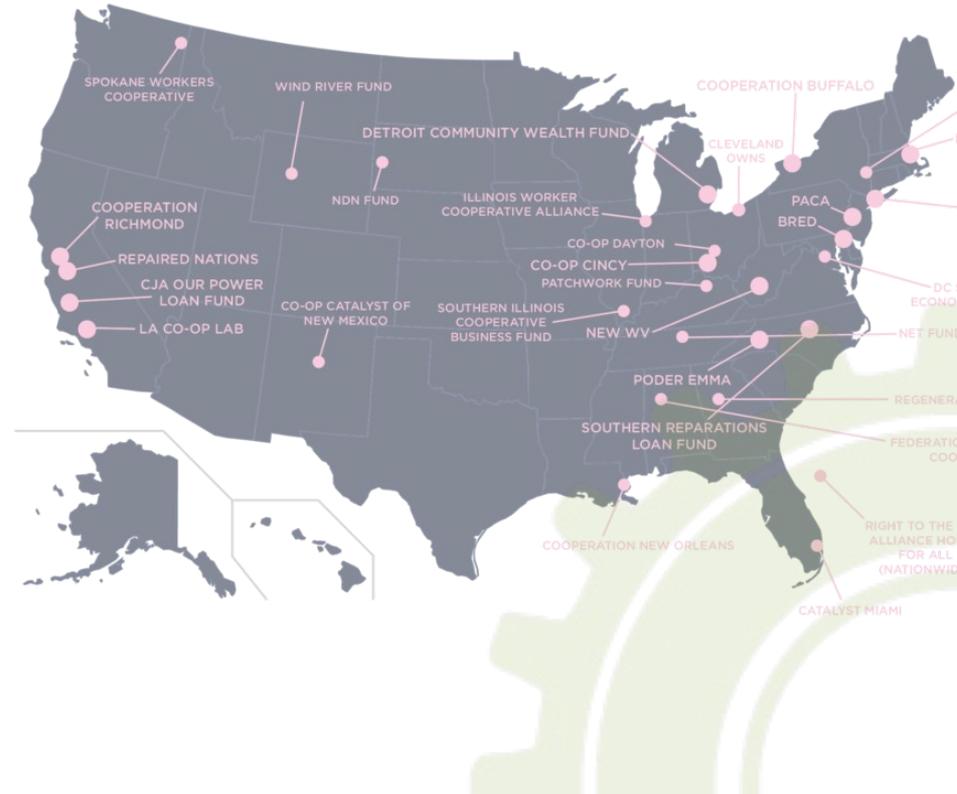
In 2022 we deployed **over half a million dollars** of loan capital to support three new Western New York cooperatives.



# Non-Extractive Lending

As members of **Seed Commons**, a national financial cooperative composed of over 30 peers across the US, we've supported the investment of over \$25 million into cooperatively owned businesses that **create jobs, build wealth, and challenge inequality.**

*As of December 31, 2021*



# Non-Extractive Lending

**97%**

97% repayment rate for Seed Commons lending to cooperatives

**92%**

92% of Seed Commons portfolio invested in Black or BIPOC-owned businesses

**63%**

63% of Seed Commons portfolio invested in businesses owned by women, queer, and transgender people

*As of December 31, 2021*





# Co-op Development

350+

Hours in 2022 spent with the worker-owners of **Anyone's Cafe & Bakery**, a cafe in the South Wedge neighborhood of Rochester, NY

300+

Hours spent with the worker-owners of **Rose Garden Early Childhood Center** in Buffalo, NY

200+

Hours spent with the worker-owners of **The Healing Grounds Cooperative**, a start-up cafe and healing space on Buffalo's West Side

90+

Hours spent with the members of **Mondragon Village Association**, a new black-owned real estate investment cooperative in Buffalo, NY



# Co-op Education

Six teams of co-op entrepreneurs graduated from our **fourth Cooperative Academy**, a 10-week training program where teams learn how to grow cooperative businesses that build wealth and solidarity. In 4 years we've trained **129 co-op entrepreneurs** through the Academy who are 60% BIPOC and 67% women, trans, and gender non-conforming.



# Co-op Education

In May, we hosted our second annual **Worker Co-op Jumpstart** workshop with the support of the Buffalo Small Business Development Center. And in June, we hosted **Talk to a Co-oper**, where aspiring co-op entrepreneurs had an opportunity to hear from current worker-owners about their co-op experiences.

## WORKER CO-OP JUMP START

Saturday, May 14th,  
1-5 pm



Co-sponsored by the  
Buffalo Small Business  
Development Center

AMERICA'S  
**SBDC**  
NEW YORK

## Talk to a Co-oper Panel Discussion

When: Monday,  
June 13, 6-8pm  
Where: Breadhive Worker  
Cooperative Bakery



# Ecosystem Development

We nurtured relationships to support our co-ops and to grow interest in the cooperative economy. In March, we presented to the **WNY Regional Food System Initiative** and Cornell Cooperative Extension about co-op farming models. In May, we held a workshop for **lawyers, accountants, and professional service providers**. And in November, we were the keynote for Our City Buffalo's **2022 Anti-Displacement Summit**.

COOPERATION  BUFFALO

Presents

**PARTNER WITH  
BUFFALO CO-OPS:**

A Virtual Educational and  
Networking Event

May 4, 2022  
6:00pm - 7:00pm

**HOSTED BY  
OUR CITY  
BUFFALO**



**2022 ANTI-DISPLACEMENT  
SUMMIT - VIRTUAL ONLY**

SATURDAY, NOV. 19, 2022  
10AM-2PM  
ONLINE AT  
[WWW.OURCITYBUFFALO.COM](http://WWW.OURCITYBUFFALO.COM)  
CHECK SOCIAL MEDIA FOR  
UPDATES: @OURCITYBFLO ON  
TWITTER AND  
[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/OURCITYBUF](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/OURCITYBUF)

# Ecosystem Development

In its second year, our **#ShopCoopBFLO** promotional campaign and holiday market event highlighted small, local, cooperatively owned businesses rooted in our community. Our local co-ops offer a wide array of services and products, and meet important community needs.



# Advocacy

In 2022 we continued our participation in the **New York State Community Equity Agenda Coalition**, calling for policies and actions that transform our fundamentally unjust social, political and economic systems. We also continued our participation in the **Crossroads Coalition**, advocating for a Just Transition for Buffalo.



# Doing Our Homework

In September, Cooperation Buffalo staff and board participated in a **two-week study and exploration of European cooperatives and solidarity economies** in Spain and Italy. We learned from autonomous collectives, place-based organizers, neighborhood-led development projects, and established co-op enterprises including Mondragon and Legacoop.



# THANK YOU!

A community-controlled economy requires community power to sustain it. Thank you to all of our volunteers, donors, partners, and community members. Learn more and get involved at our website [cooperationbuffalo.org](https://cooperationbuffalo.org)

