



DID YOU KNOW?

The UW System Administration’s Institute for Business & Entrepreneurship helps entrepreneurs, businesses, and economic development professionals across the state to achieve their goals by offering technical assistance, counseling, and data leveraging through five distinct program units:

- Small Business Development Center Network
- Center for Technology Commercialization
- Food Finance Institute
- Center for Business Intelligence
- Business Dynamics Research Consortium

REGIONAL SBDC

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN River Falls

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RESULTS: THE NUMBERS (JANUARY 2016-JUNE 2019)

Boosting local economies	In Wisconsin	In Your Region
New businesses created	955	54
Capital investment	\$420 million	\$8.5 million
Jobs created and retained	4,174	141
Clients receiving assistance	11,322 (32.5% pre-venture, 67.5% existing businesses)	384 (65.4% pre-venture, 34.6% existing businesses)

Showing a commitment to access for all	In Wisconsin	In Your Region
Female clients	46.1%	50%
Companies with some female ownership	50.7%	52.2%
Capital invested in rural companies	\$124.5 million	\$158,860
Rural client assistance	18,634 hours	254 hours
Minority clients	19.9%	11.1%
Veteran clients	6.8%	9.3%

Regional Success Stories



HIGH-TECH ENTREPRENEUR SUCCESS: PIVOT INTERACTIVES

City: River Falls

Co-owners: Peter Bohacek & Matt Vonk

Their Innovation: Pivot Interactives offers teachers customizable classroom experiments through novel, interactive videos that better simulate science in the real world. Ideadvance Seed Fund's strategic support allowed Bohacek and Vonk to set and achieve measurable goals, speed adoption by teachers, and attract additional funding toward development of the platform program.



CLIENT SUCCESS: MEI MEI'S COOKIES & CREAMERY

City: River Falls

Owner: Melissa Abdouch

Her Innovation: Abdouch leveraged crowdsourcing and 20 years of financial experience to start a full-service café, open until 2:30 a.m. on weekends. Mei Mei's employs people with special needs to create meaningful jobs around happy people.



CLIENT SUCCESS: CUTTING EDGE LAWN AND LANDSCAPE CARE

City: River Falls

Owner: Mike Minnich

His Innovation: With help from SBDC's Entrepreneurial Training Program, Minnich is succeeding in a highly competitive landscaping industry. He maintains a seasonal business year-round through software that assists in efficient time and budget management.