



WISCONSIN
MICROFINANCE

Our Year: 2017 Report



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Year in Review

2017 was a big year at Wisconsin Microfinance. Thanks to the continued support of our donors, we were able to bring in over **\$17,000!** The funds raised have been put directly into the hands of small business owners to continue our fight against poverty, one loan at a time. In fact, our incredible borrowers in Haiti and The Philippines have maintained a **98% repayment rate**. It is inspiring to see the amazing progress that our recipients have achieved with the opportunity that our donors have generously afforded them.

"ONE SMALL ORGANIZATION, COMMITTED TO BIG CHANGE, IMPROVING LIVES ONE BY ONE"





**"Thank you for helping us to help others,
thank you for joining us in 2017, and cheers
to making 2018 even more successful."**

**Jane McCurry
Executive Director**

No matter your contribution level, thank you for being a part of Wisconsin Microfinance's mission. We strive to reach the poorest of the poor and empower them to lift themselves out of poverty, breaking its vicious cycle for themselves and their families.

As an organization we went through plenty of change in the past year. I transitioned in as Executive Director early in the year and we underwent drastic branding changes throughout the year. First, we introduced a brand new state of the art website that better connects our donors to your borrowers' stories and our mission as an organization. From there, I focused on rebranding our efforts under the terms "Women Supporting Women" and "Empower an Entrepreneur." My hope is that these messages inspire you, our amazing donors, to see the true value and mission of our organization.

We also expanded our team quite a bit. I welcomed new interns and volunteers that helped with marketing, events, donor outreach and managing our social media accounts. They have been invaluable additions to our little team, and they have supported the Wisconsin Microfinance mission immensely.

We are striving to support the women in rural, disaster stricken areas who just want to provide for their families and put their lives back together. We are supporting the small business owners who only need a small amount of capital to set themselves up for a successful financial future. Thank you for helping us to help others, thank you for joining us in 2017, and cheers to making 2018 even more successful.

With Love,
Jane



2017 Highlights

2

COUNTRIES

39

BUSINESS PARTNERS

81%

OF LOANS TO WOMEN

98

INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTORS

98%

REPAYMENT RATE

437

BORROWERS

1 Mission:

**Provide small loans to individuals
living in poverty**



**WISCONSIN
MICROFINANCE**

Fundraising

\$17,419
Raised in 2017

12% of donated dollars were
designated to Haiti

58% of donated dollars were
designated to the Philippines

When donating online you have the option to select a specific program to support- Haiti, the Philippines, or our administrative fund. Undesignated funds are split evenly between Haiti and the Philippines.



Events

This year, we hosted 5 major events to highlight our recipients' successes. We always love getting to know our donors over food, music, games and galas.

Reggae for a Reason At the Pearl Street Brewery in La Crosse we enjoyed a night of music from the band Unity and finished off the night with a raffle!

Mead, Music and Microfinance As part of Madison's Forward Festival, Unity the band made a trip down to Madison to highlight our evening because they were super supportive of the event in La Crosse. We were able to spend a night with all of our donors and volunteers, getting together to sample Meade and the music of Unity.

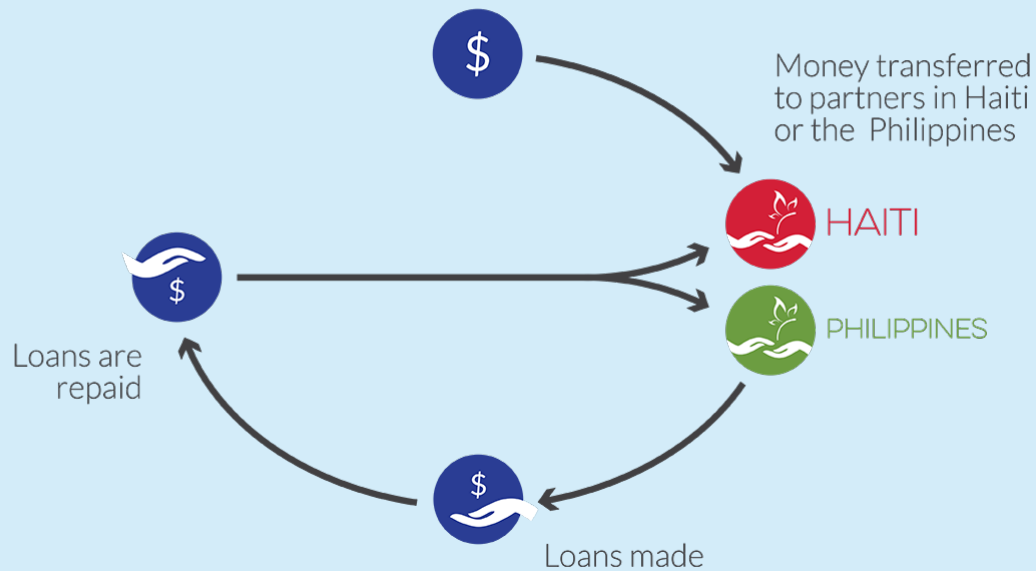
Milwaukee and Madison Galas In spring each year. We gather at Harvest Restaurant in Madison and the Hotel Metro in Milwaukee to enjoy presentations on microfinance and the countries we are active in, a multi-course meal, and a silent auction.

Wisconsin for Haiti We worked with The Haiti Project to present The Wisconsin for Haiti fundraiser at Wisconsin Brewing Company. We celebrated our borrower's accomplishments with live music, food trucks, yard games, and a Haitian jewelry



Our Model

How it works
DONATE FUNDS



At Wisconsin Microfinance we believe that the answer to alleviating poverty is through helping people find work. Aid creates dependency and is not sustainable, further contributing to economic disparities. Microfinance allows entrepreneurs to create sustainable work for themselves, which supports their families, and often the broader community.

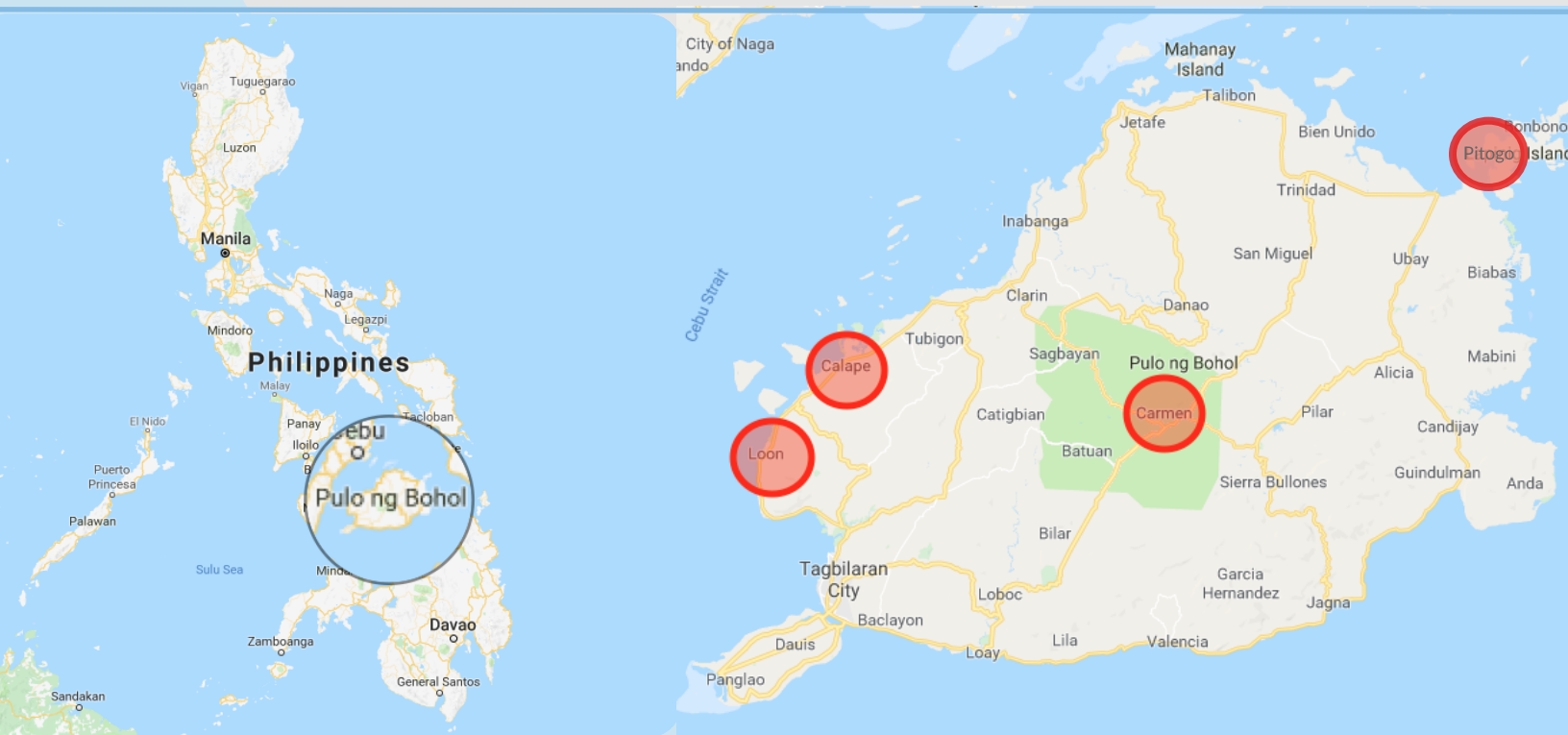
Our programs are based off the microfinance programs developed originally by the Grameen Bank, a well-known microfinance organization, founded by Muhammad Yunus, who won the Nobel Prize in 2006.

We work with partners in Haiti and the Philippines in order to effectively provide loans to the most marginalized people. The role of Wisconsin Microfinance is to provide capital to our partners, who in turn provide loans to members of their communities. Our partners are vital to the success of our mission because they screen potential applicants and collect loan payments.

"EMPOWER AN ENTREPRENEUR"

Philippines

Tucked away in south-central Philippines, sits the small islands of Bohol and Pitogo. Bohol is home to three communities we serve: Carmen, Calape, and Loon. To the Northeast of Bohol is Pitogo, an even smaller island. VICTO, a credit union on Bohol, is the in-country coordinator of the loan program. Together VICTO and Wisconsin Microfinance have been able to target individuals and families effected by typhoons and poverty.



Rosalina

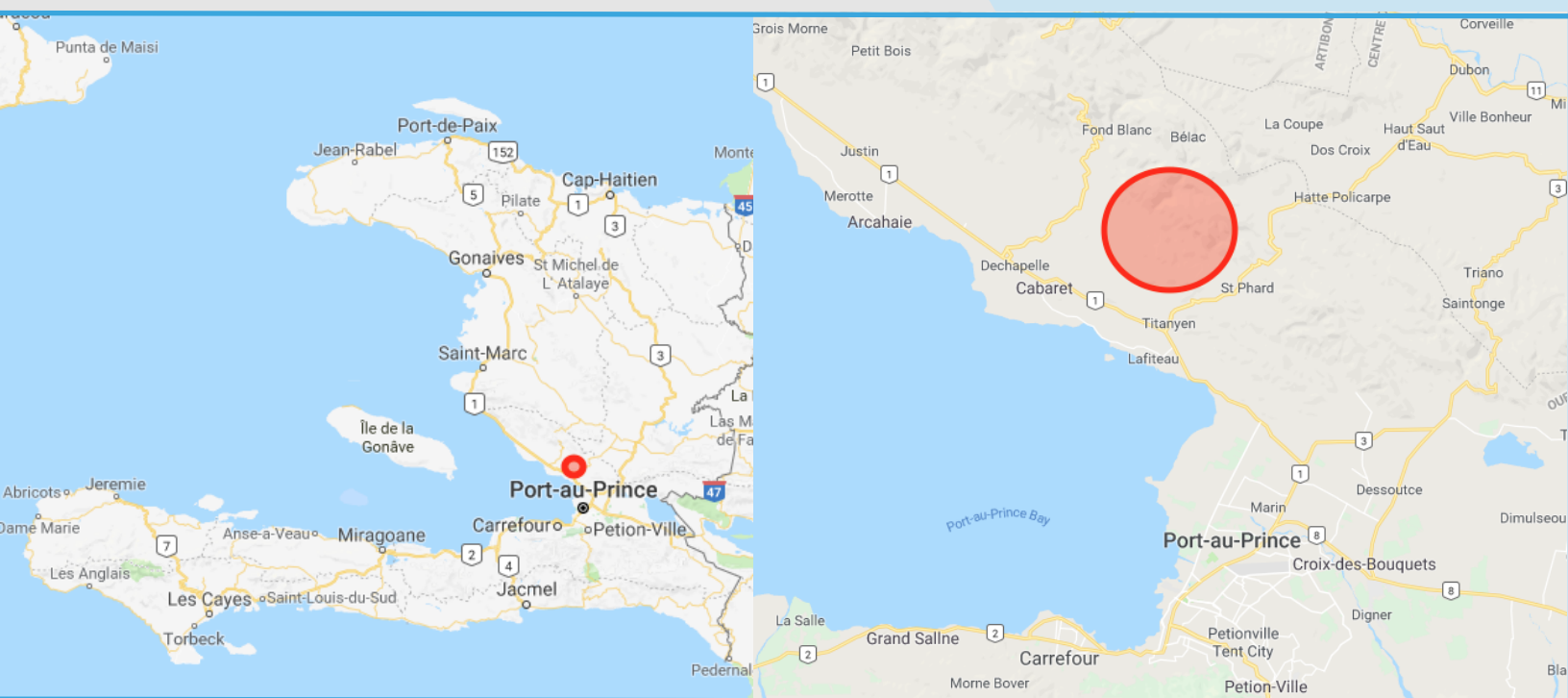
Business: Piggery and Sari- Sari Store

Loan Amount: 10,000 Php (~\$190)

Previous Loan: 6,000 Php (~\$115)

Haiti

This small island nation is home to some of the poorest people in the Americas. This situation only worsened after the 7.0 magnitude earthquake that hit in 2010. Wisconsin Microfinance was formed in response to the 2010 earthquake with initial goals to assist in recovery efforts. We have continued our dedication to helping Haitians one at a time. Our community partner in Haiti is CECFOP, an economic development nonprofit. Our lending program is in an extremely rural community called Barreau Michel.



Madame Saurel

Business: Fruit and Vegetable Vendor

Loan Amount: 4,000 Haitian Gourde (~\$62)



Women

Wisconsin Microfinance is taking a leadership role on women's economic empowerment. We're working to provide women the financial opportunity to achieve their dreams and follow their passions as business women.

Around the world, women disproportionately bear the burden of poverty. More than one billion women have no access to formal financial services. Practical measures to give women access to affordable credit is a key stepping stone in women's empowerment. Microfinance plays an important role in paving the way for a new generation of businesswomen.

Ultimately, we believe that it is vital to give women a platform to become visible, vocal, and to reach their financial goals. By targeting women for our micro-loans, we help them get the recognition they deserve and create role models which challenge the gender stereotypes that so often hold women back.

"WOMEN SUPPORTING WOMEN"



Internal Progress

This year, we are proud to say that we have made many strides to become a more diverse and effective organization. We welcomed new interns and volunteers to the Wisconsin Microfinance team. Together, these women and men have brought an array of specialties and passions that have helped us push the organization forward.

In 2017, we put an emphasis on improving our outreach to the community. We have a brand new website, flyers, and posters that help us share our information and our mission with the community at large. We hope you have experienced this and felt closer to our organization this year.



Thank you to the following donors and organizations who supported our mission this year:

Donors

Katherine Abbott	Jerry and Nyra Jordan
Matt Amour	Paul Kaarakka
Michael Anderson	Karl Kanvik
Mona Augustin	James Kokalj
Anne Bachner	Deb La Susa
Marie Baker	Jason Liu
Paul Biddick	Anna Liza Fernandaz Alcantara
Nora Bouhaddada	Kevin and Kathryn McCurry
Mark Bronner	Tim and Jennifer McCurry
Beth Churchill	Alana McKeever
John Cain	Jacklyn Mclean
Kathryn Confirti	Christine Moss
Thomas Content	Conor Mullan
Guillermo Cordova	Karen Nakasone
Gerald and Kay Cullen	Kristine and Timothy Nelson
Jane Cummings Carlson	Kathryn O'Kelly
Sally Dahir	David Ogren
M Dino	Ruth Ohlrogge
Peg DiPoto	Estela Ohlrogge
Meg DiPoto	Paul Ohrogge
Diana and Ross Dougherty	Kathryn Olsen
Iain Duguay	Parker Palmer
Tom and Joan Eggert	Frank and Julie Peck
Nick Eggert	Michael Piper
Dan Fahey	Timothy Roehl
Doug and Lois Fearing	Richard Rolfsmeyer
Anthony, Ian, and Jennifer Franda	Theresa Rooney
Trevor Franda	Heidi and Sam Ropa
Aaron and Julian Gary	Catherine Schachter
LeeAnn, Bob and Chris Glover	Darlene Schmidt
Modesto Gonzales	Emma Schneider
Dave Grace	Mackenzie Schnell
Nancy and Denis Gross	Steven Stoddard
John Grych	Josh Thiermann
Nicole Haas	Stephanye Vela
Gregory Hakala	Alyssa Voboril
Tracy Harvey	Connor Wood
Philip Hasset	Candice Welsh
Margaret Johnson	Kendall Young
Joanie Haugen	Melba Zanoni
Erin Holmes	Anonymous

Businesses & Organizations

American Family Insurance
Bos Meadery
Clear Water Outdoor
Colectivo Coffee
Cuisine Adventure Tours
Fore!
Forward Festival
Green Bay Packers
Haiti Project
Harvest Restaurant
Hotel Metro
Ian's Pizza
KwikTrip
La-Z-Boy
Lakefront Brewery
Lynden Sculpture Gardens
Madison Community Foundation
Milwaukee Ale House
Milwaukee Bucks
Milwaukee Food and City Tours
Milwaukee Repertory Theater
Pastiche at the Metro
People's Food Cooperative
Philippines-American Association
of Madison
Ray's Wine and Spirits
Returned Peace Corps Volunteers
Wisconsin
Rotary Club of Madison
SkyZone
SummerFest
Ten Pin Alley
The Comedy Club on State
The Old Fashioned
The Overture Center
Trader Joe's
Unity the Band
University of Wisconsin Athletics
Usingers
Willy Street Coop
Wisconsin Athletic Club