

Date Release: 09/27/2024



PRESS RELEASE

New Resource to Empower Rural Communities

Great Falls, MT – The Montana Cooperative Development Center (MCDC) is proud to announce the launch of its new Cooperative Development Toolkit, focused on Opportunity Cooperatives, also known as Investment Cooperatives. This comprehensive resource is designed to guide individuals, community organizations, and businesses in Montana through the cooperative development process, providing a step-by-step approach to establishing successful cooperatives that invest in the future of their communities.

Tailored specifically to Montana’s unique needs, the toolkit offers tools, case studies, and best practices that can be easily adapted across the state. It covers all critical aspects of cooperative development, from idea formation to launching the cooperative, including business planning, legal structure formation, and governance. The toolkit provides a well-rounded overview of the cooperative model, featuring practical case studies and examples of successful Opportunity Cooperatives from both within and outside Montana.

“The launch of this toolkit is a significant milestone in our mission to support cooperative development throughout Montana,” said Davey Madison, Program Director at MCDC. “By providing this resource, we are empowering local leaders to build sustainable businesses that strengthen their communities and boost the local economy.”

MCDC has already successfully established three Investment Cooperatives across the state, with more in development. Through this toolkit, MCDC aims to make cooperative resources even more accessible, helping to foster rural development and economic sustainability.

About the Montana Cooperative Development Center The Montana Cooperative Development Center is dedicated to fostering the growth of cooperative businesses throughout Montana. MCDC provides technical assistance, training, and resources to help individuals and organizations successfully form, develop, and sustain cooperative businesses. Through its efforts, MCDC contributes to economic growth and community development throughout the state.

For more information about the Cooperative Development Toolkit or to explore cooperative opportunities in your community, visit www.mcfdc.coop or contact Nicole at nicole@mcfdc.coop.

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