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First Southwest Community Fund Creates the #SouthwestStrong Fire Relief Business Microloan

Focused on aiding businesses impacted by the 416 and Burro fires, as well as the closure of the San Juan National Forest, First Southwest Community Fund creates the #SouthwestStrong Fire Relief Business Microloan.

DURANGO, COLO., (June 19th, 2018) – As the 416 and Burro fires continue to impact small businesses and jobs in Southwest Colorado, First Southwest Community Fund (FSWCF) has developed a low-interest, fixed-rate microloan program – the #SouthwestStrong Fire Relief Business Loan – for local businesses that have had a direct impact in the form of evacuation, pre-evacuation, or are unable to access or operate their business services due to restrictions placed.

[APPLY NOW](#)

#SouthwestStrong Fire Relief Business Loan Details:

- Applications open immediately.
- Primary revenue stream has to have been impacted or disrupted.
- Minimum loan amount of \$1,500 and maximum loan amount of \$5,000.
- Concentrate primarily in La Plata, San Juan, Archuleta, and Montezuma Counties.
- Business must intend to reopen, when they can.
- Business must be 2 years or older with 15 employees or less, employee restrictions may apply.
- For the response to be timely to the need of the business, an approval decision will be reached within 24 hours of receiving a complete application and the loan will be scheduled to close for next day funding.
- Origination fee paid by First Southwest Bank, on behalf of borrower.
- All other closing fee's will be waived.

“During these trying times, there’s nothing more important to us than committing to the small businesses of rural Colorado,” says Kent Curtis, FSWCF president. “As Durango, Silverton, and surrounding towns are impacted by the evacuations, closures and decreased tourism, we are eager to provide the help and support needed to keep the incredible culture and small businesses of Durango and Southwest Colorado strong and resilient.”

Please spread the word of the SouthwestStrong Fire Relief Business Microloan to local businesses impacted by the 416 and Burro Fires, and forest closure. **For more information please contact Kent Curtis, 970.422.5054, or kent.curtis@fswb.com.**

About First Southwest Community Fund

As a 501c3, First Southwest Community Fund supports the dedicated entrepreneurial spirit of rural Colorado, by investing in the people, culture, and ideas that fuel innovation and financial knowledge in our community, with an emphasis on areas of greatest need. First Southwest Community Fund achieves this by providing low-cost business and agricultural lending, supporting educational programs that prepare people to participate in the mainstream economy, enhancing early learning and development opportunities, and augmenting technology and other public amenities. Please find more information about First Southwest Community Fund at fswcf.org.

About First Southwest Bank

Serving the San Luis Valley and rural Colorado for more than 100 years, First Southwest Bank offers personal and business banking at their seven branches, with an emphasis on businesses supporting rural communities. First Southwest Bank and their employees actively live-in and give back to our communities, volunteering with more than 40 local organizations, and donating to 115. As a CDFI bank, First Southwest Bank is focused on cultivating valuable relationships, investing in economic and social doers, and fostering a well-lived rural culture. More information about First Southwest Bank is available at fswb.com. Member FDIC, Equal Housing Lender