



# INVEST IN CO-OPS

to grow the cooperative economy

Cooperation Among Cooperatives

In 1975 a group of activists and social investors founded the Cooperative Fund of New England (CFNE) to provide loans to start-up and expanding co-ops that were underserved by mainstream lenders. In 2006, CFNE began a dialogue with co-op leaders to assess the evolving financial needs of the movement. In response to their input, the Fund launched the Cooperative Capital Fund (CCF) to supplement its lending activities with a source of patient, equity-like investment for under-capitalized or expanding co-ops.

CFNE invites you and your cooperatives to invest in CFNE to support the development and growth of other cooperatives and of the coop movement.

Since the founding of the modern cooperative movement in 1844, co-ops have been guided by an evolving set of principles that identify their unique purpose, structure, and way of working together. The 6th Principle of the Cooperative Identity, "Cooperation among Cooperatives," notes that "cooperatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the cooperative movement by working together through local, national, regional and international structures."

Co-ops in our region have a long history of collaboration and mutual support and have been proactive in ensuring that there is financial and technical support for cooperative development. Acting in support of the 6th Principle, many co-ops are active investors in CFNE and CCF, making their resources available for a new wave of cooperative development in communities across our region. A partial list of co-ops that have invested in CFNE and CCF follows.

## JOIN OTHER CO-OPS

investing resources for future cooperative development



**Berkshire Co-op Market** • Great Barrington, MA  
**Brattleboro Food Co-op** • Brattleboro, VT  
**Cabot Creamery** • Waterbury, Quechee, & Cabot, VT  
**City Market/Onion River Co-op** • Burlington, VT  
**Collective Copies** • Amherst, Belchertown, and Florence, MA  
**Community Builders** • Somerville, MA  
**Equal Exchange** • West Bridgewater, MA  
**FEDCO Seeds** • Waterville, ME  
**Great Bay Food Co-op** • Durham, NH  
**Green Mountain Spinnery** • Putney, VT  
**Handwork** • Ithaca, NY  
**Hanover Consumer Co-op Society Inc** • Hanover, NH  
**Hunger Mountain Co-op** • Montpelier, VT

**King Arthur Flour** • Norwich, VT  
**Middlebury Natural Foods Co-op** • Middlebury, VT  
**NCB Capital Impact** • Arlington, VA & Oakland, CA  
**Pedal People** • Northampton, MA  
**Putney Food Co-op** • Putney, VT  
**South Mountain Company** • West Tisbury, MA  
**Springfield Food Co-op** • Springfield, VT  
**Twin Pines Co-operative Foundation** • Davis, CA  
**Upper Valley Food Co-op** • White River Junction, VT  
**Willimantic Food Co-op** • Willimantic, CT

To learn more about investing in the cooperative economy, please call 1-800-818-7833

# CONTRIBUTE RESOURCES

## to build the cooperative economy

### **Cooperative Purpose and Principles: Cooperators Investing in Co-ops**

"I love what you do, so please keep doing it. For those of us that believe cooperatives offer the best solution for economic and social progress, we simply must invest in a manner that supports our values. If we don't, how can we expect others to adopt our principles? This is why I choose to invest in the Cooperative Fund of New England."

*Adam D. Schwartz, VP Public Affairs & Member Services,  
National Cooperative Business Association (NCBA)*

"The fact that I can use my savings to help promote a cooperative economics, puts CFNE top of my list. The fact that during our recent economic crash CFNE continued to hold its value. The realization that there is an untapped billions of dollars being "saved" by stashing it away in stocks, bonds and banks gives me hope that CFNE has only started on a road to a better world. We can all do something but gripe about the failing socioeconomic system."

*William Ellis, Investor*

"It has been quite a lesson and a challenge to figure out how to deal with the money I received when my father died... put that together with wanting to be 'socially responsible' ... but where our money goes is all key to helping the world shift...I thought I thought about this stuff but now realize that I didn't see it in this light... CFNE is the next best thing to putting money under the mattress...thanks"

*Alice Rubin, investor and General Manager at Willimantic Food Co-op.*

"...Providing resources to facilitate the accomplishment of a community vision is good work to do in the world."

*Rochelle Prunty, General Manager at River Valley Cooperative Market in Massachusetts*



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cooperative economy with CFNE, please call 1-800-818-7833**

**[www.coopfund.coop](http://www.coopfund.coop)**