

Location:

108 East Pitt Street
Bedford, PA

County:

Bedford

Description:

Business expansion loan

Total Project Cost:

\$126,195



LIFeSTYLE Italian

People

“People want to have an experience, not just good food,” says Stefano Ferrari. That’s why LIFeSTYLE Italian has seen its four-course dinners sell out so often: Diners sit by strangers, share the evening’s offerings and their stories, and leave as friends. It’s a tradition Stefano and his brother, Davide, carried from their hometown of Magenta, Italy, to Bedford. When the space next door became available, the brothers saw a chance to offer that experience to more people. The only hurdle was the cost of punching doors between two buildings and converting a candy store into trattoria decor.

Progress:

Stefano has lost track of the number of times he has called on The Progress Fund over 17 years of growth at LIFeSTYLE

Italian. This time The Progress Fund loaned \$96,795 to help Stefano join the two spaces and remodel.

Impact:

The Ferrari brothers are expanding their retail offerings of Italian food and pottery, plus adding gelato to draw more walk-in business. They are also partnering with a winery and a brewery, both in Pennsylvania, to quench the thirsts of the many visitors who make the half-day drive from cities including D.C. and New York. With that, Bedford becomes even more of a draw for – as Stefano puts it – “people who like to travel and have experiences, and enjoy great Italian food.”

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