

## **BOTTOMS UP COFFEE CO-OP**

3rd Congressional District

## Coffee Co-Op Strives to Lower Ohio's Infant Mortality

Ohio's infant mortality rate is one of the worst in the nation and is even worse than in some third world countries. Virginia Nunes Gutierrez and her sister, Victoria Calderon Nunes had a vision to improve this problem while also economically revitalizing the highly distressed Franklinton community with a poverty rate of 30%, a median income of 34% and an unemployment rate of 13%.

The sisters are the owners of Bottoms Up Coffee Co-op, a coffee shop and a community workspace where people can rent office space. 10% of the coffee shop sales go to local, nonprofit organizations that combat socio-economic factors contributing to infant mortality.

The co-op is improving the community's overall health by serving as a drop-off point for food and local pantries, donating items to expecting and single parents, creating several community programs and hiring its own community health employee to help access community resources and adopt healthy behaviors.

Finance Fund Capital Corporation (FCAP) provided the sisters with a \$200,000 SBA Community Advantage loan for working capital and to purchase and renovate the 2,400 sq. ft. building and home to Bottoms Up Coffee Co-Op. The City of Columbus also provided an additional \$50,000 for working capital.

"Bottoms Up is a perfect example of the mission-based projects that we are known to finance. Virginia and Victoria are really making a difference and this coffee co-op is turning a problem into a promise by reducing the appalling infant mortality rate in Franklinton. Franklinton ranks among the highest in infant mortality rates among Columbus neighborhoods," said FCAP President and CEO Diana Turoff.



## FINANCE FUND CAPITAL CORPORATION (FCAP) INVESTMENT IMPACT:

- Reduces Ohio's Infant Mortality rate
- Increases the resources for overall health
  improvement in a highly distressed community



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