

I was a recipient of Mercy Corps NW IDA this year. I truly believe that this program is irreplaceable and must be prioritized in our fine city's funding. There are many, many barrier to entries for people to launch and a sustain a profitable business. The IDA provides both the education necessary for success and helps with the daunting start up costs associated with a new business. I very much am grateful for this IDA for helping me launch a successful business that will nurture me and my family as well as the city of Portland for years to come. Small, local businesses are the life blood to cities and bring so much culture and joy to the community. Portland is one of the most important cities in the United States because of its commitment to its people and their success. The IDA program is one such way this can be achieved in perpetuity. The success of a thriving local economy should always be put at the forefront of priorities for the city and its community members.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any follow up questions.

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