In 2005, Jim Czerwinski saw a need for a machine shop that could repair coal mining equipment locally, so he started Magnum Steel Works. Beginning with modest equipment and three employees, Czerwinski grew his startup rapidly over the next decade-and-a-half to 130 employees.

The defining moment of growth was when Czerwinski utilized an SBA 504 loan to purchase new manufacturing equipment for installation in a new, larger facility.

The company is now better equipped to meet the increasing market demands of the coal industry. “Our expansion has provided us with the ability to bring in a new line of mining equipment for repair,” Czerwinski said. “We are one of the only facilities in the country that can house this equipment.”

The company’s recent large-scale expansion is a prime example of the things that can happen when agencies such as DCEO, USDA, SBA and other local agencies work together to support those investing in rural economic development.

504 loans have added 87,769 jobs to the IL economy

$4.3 billion in financing to help IL small businesses

6,593 entrepreneurs in IL have benefited from program

17 Jobs Created/Retained
$735K Loan
Small Business Growth Corporation

CDCs SERVE IL
With 10 CDCs serving Illinois, the 504 loan program and other CDC offerings are at the fingertips of any IL entrepreneur in need of non-conventional financing.

NADCO
National Association of Development Companies

Girl and the Goat Custom Gear & Machine Inc.
Snowpusher, Inc.
Chicago Autism Academy

Source: U.S. Small Business Administration
VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.NADCO.ORG
BROTHERS BREATHE LIFE BACK INTO COMMUNITY HOTSPOT

Lavergne’s Tavern | 13 Jobs Created/Retained

Jerry Hernandez didn’t expect a breakfast with his mom would lead to opening his third restaurant. A Cook County native and 15-year veteran in the restaurant business, Garv’s Inn, a staple in Berwyn since the 1960’s, had been on Hernandez’s radar for years.

"I was driving home from having breakfast with my mom and I saw Garv’s had closed," explained Jerry. "I called the building owner and immediately got to work."

Jerry was able to acquire the building using an SBA 504 financing and he reopened the inn as “Lavergne’s Tavern” with his brother as his business partner shortly thereafter. Jerry and his brother Jorge want Berwyn residents to feel like Lavergne’s is their hometown spot. “All of our restaurants are strongly connected to the community, but being back home in Berwyn is extra special,” says Jerry.