



Jacksonville, FL

The 504 Loan Program Impact in

Florida

BY THE NUMBERS
PAST 20 YEARS

A PASSION FOR BEER AND A 504 LOAN



Ron Gamble, a U.S. Navy veteran and Founder & Brewmaster of Veterans United Craft Brewery. Gamble was a naval flight officer stationed in Jacksonville, Florida, and was deployed to Iraq in 1991. Following his military service, Ron's wife, Sheryl, presented him with a gift-wrapped box containing a bucket, funnel, tubing and various other odd-looking components. It was a simple beer-making kit. With a few carefully chosen ingredients, the possibilities for experimenting with this new homebrewing hobby were endless. A hobby turned into a passion and eventually a full-fledged career path. Ron attended rigorous training at the Siebel Institute and managed several brewhouses and cellar operations in the New England area. Shortly thereafter, the Gamble's packed up their now expanded homebrewing system and headed back home to Jacksonville. There, Ron organized a group of military veterans who shared his enthusiasm for brewing to form Veterans United Craft Brewery. With the help of an SBA 504 loan and Florida First Capital Finance Corporation, major brewing equipment, furniture and fixtures were purchased to begin operations. With Gamble's staff primarily comprised of military veterans, it's fitting the beer is emblazoned with patriotic branding, like the Raging Blonde Ale with World War II icon Rosie the Riveter on the label. With Ron at the helm as brew master, and a team of committed staff and volunteers, the company is focused on achieving the goal of becoming one of the finest craft breweries in the region.



504 loans have supported **87,817 jobs** in the FL economy

\$5.3 billion in financing to help **FL small businesses**



8,774 entrepreneurs in FL have benefited from program



A Sample of FL 504 Borrowers

Tuskers Home Store, Inc
True Wellness Health Center
Blueberry's Restaurant
D1 Traning of Lakewood Ranch

Source: U.S. Small Business Administration
VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.NADCO.ORG

 **6 Jobs Created/Retained**

\$134,750



21 Financial Credit Union

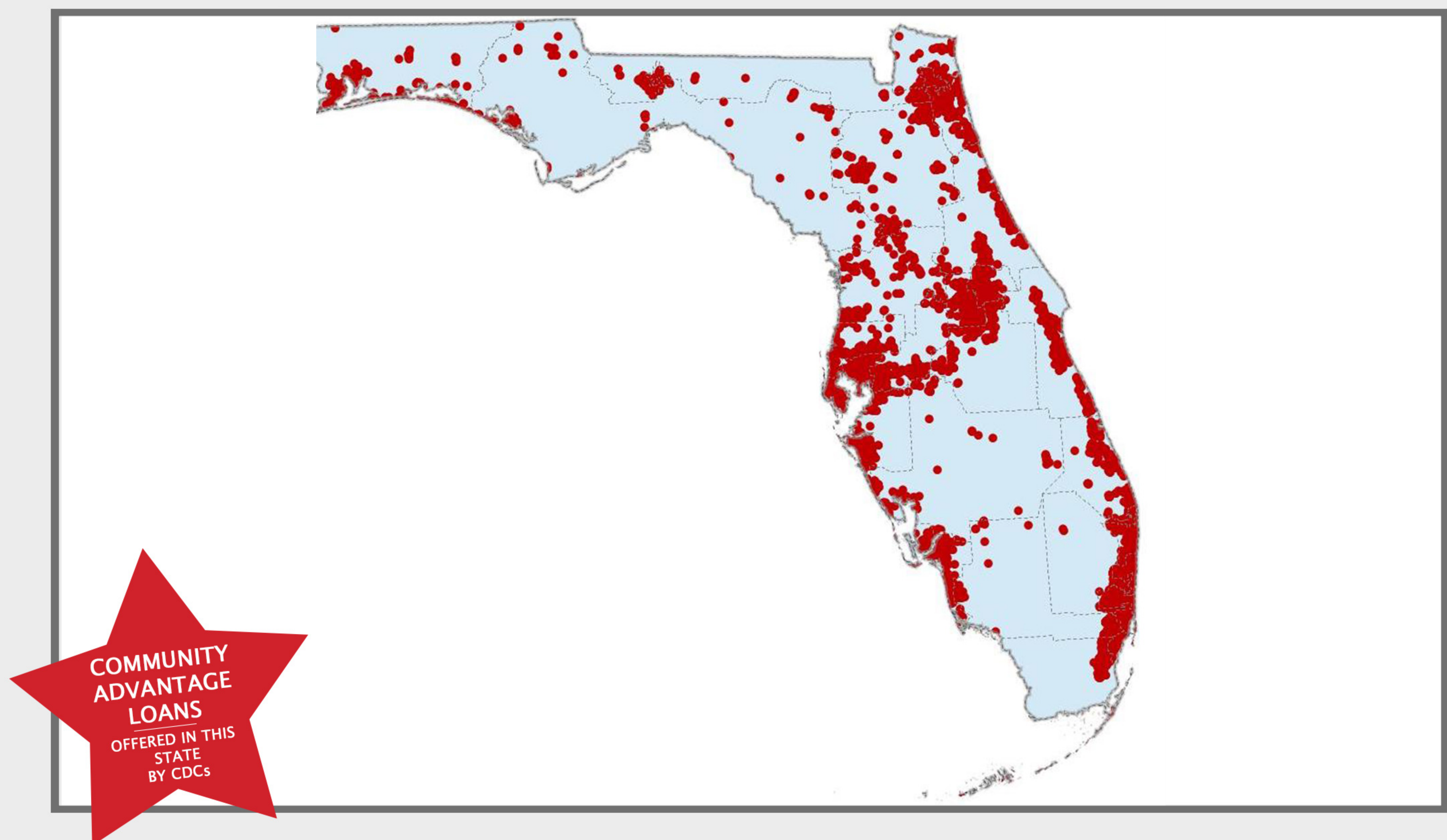
NADCO

National Association of Development Companies



CDCs THAT SERVE FL
Florida Business Dev. Co.
Florida First Capital
Independent Development
Services Corp.
Sunshine State Economic
Development Corp.

MAP OF 504S BY DISTRICT IN FLORIDA



504 LOAN HELPS EXPAND THIS TECHNOLOGY BASED BUSINESS

The SBA 504 loan provided funding for the acquisition and expansion of the headquarters and manufacturing facility of IRISS, Inc. IRISS is the global leader in manufacturing of Electrical Maintenance Safety Devices and Reliability Technologies. The patented, award winning Electrical Inspection Windows allow for a safer, more efficient inspection process and are fully customizable to fit industrial needs. The Wireless Temperature Monitoring and Intelligent Asset Management systems allow for increased monitoring of critical assets, allowing companies to accomplish more with less. Additionally, IRISS offers a world-class training program through their SMART academy, that provides certification to technicians in an online format. IRISS products are in use around the world. With help from **IDS Corporation** and the SBA 504 loan to acquire their production facility and headquarters, IRISS provided a stable base for their over 30 U.S. based employees and set the stage for future growth.



30 Jobs Created/Retained

\$ 2,653,000



Fifth Third Bank