



Jobs Creation through microenterprise development

A study of recent graduates of the Women's Initiative program revealed that:

- Our 2012 survey showed that our clients created and retained 5,317 jobs for themselves and others last year.
- On average, clients paid those who worked for them nearly \$22/hour, more than twice the minimum wage.
- Nearly six in ten clients are self-employed twelve months after training.
- One in four self-employed clients provides jobs for others through her business.
- Clients who have part-time, full-time, temporary, or contract workers provide an average of three jobs for others through their business.

Women's Initiative for Self Employment, one of the largest microenterprise training and funding organizations in the country, conducted a study, "**Job Creation through Microenterprise Development**," showing graduates are creating jobs for themselves and others through their businesses at an astonishing rate. In 2012 alone, Women's Initiative clients created and retained 5,317 jobs.

"This research shows the power of the small business owner not only to provide income and employment for themselves, but also to create jobs for others and stimulate the local economy," said Nicole Levine, CEO of Women's Initiative. "Women's Initiative graduates are making a significant impact on the local economy."

Every \$1 million invested in Women's Initiative results in the creation of nearly 200 jobs within twelve months.

"Investment in entrepreneurial education for women is indeed staggeringly successful and cost-effective, yielding both productive businesses and community-wide benefit," said Mary Godwyn, assistant professor in the History and Society Division at Babson College, who was an external advisor on the paper. To see the complete paper, go to www.womensinitiative.org.

ABOUT WOMEN'S INITIATIVE

For 25 years, Women's Initiative for Self Employment has been providing high-potential, low-income women with the business training, funding and ongoing support to start their own businesses and become economically self sufficient. The business management training, technical assistance, and financial services we provide, in English and Spanish, improve the quality of life for the women we serve, their families and our communities. The women who go through our program significantly increase their income and assets while launching businesses, creating jobs and stimulating the local economy. In 2012, recent graduates of our program created and retained more than 5,317 jobs! For more information, please visit www.womensinitiative.org.