In 1982, First Nations Oweesta Corporation’s parent company, First Nations Development Institute, began development work on a finance program later named Oweesta, from the Mohawk word for money. Oweesta would become the nation’s first and only certified Native Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) intermediary. Today, *Oweesta remains soundly committed to the founders’ original belief that, when armed with appropriate resources, Native people hold the capacity and integrity to ensure the sustainable, economic, spiritual, and cultural well-being of their communities.*

Thanks to the support of banks, foundations, government agencies, religious institutions, trusts, and individual socially conscious investors, Oweesta has a robust and growing investment portfolio of over 50 different investors. These investments range in size from $5,000-$3,000,000. Each investment helps us capitalize Native CDFIs throughout the nation. These NCDFIs are on the front lines of revitalizing their local economies, but have unmet capital needs of over forty-seven million dollars. Therefore, each investment in our portfolio, no matter how small, works hand in hand with us to help us rebuild our Native nations.