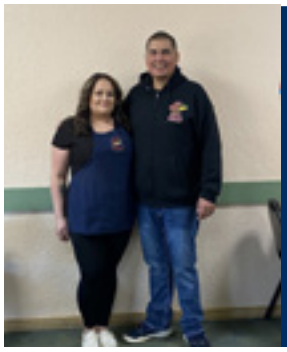
Joe LaPlante
Regional Director
Riley Mortensen
CARES Support Specialist

Bear Paw Development Corporation
of Northern Montana

Havre Regional SBDC

Taco Treat

Havre, MT



"We had no idea where to begin or what paperwork was needed. The SBDC went through this step-by-step with us, creating an informative business plan with strong cash flow projections. Without the SBDC we may not have been able to purchase this business."
Rosemaree Windy Boy, Co-*Owner*

Everett and Rosemaree Windy Boy have been employees at the Havre Taco Treat, a Montana franchise, for various periods over the past ten years. Taco Treat serves fast-casual Mexican food from its location in Havre Montana, the only one within a 100-mile radius. When the owner of the restaurant expressed her intent to sell, the Windy Boy's were interested. They turned to the Havre SBDC for assistance.

Rosemaree and Everett approached Joe LaPlante, Regional Director with the Havre SBDC at Bear Paw Development Corporation. With experience as employees, they understood daily operations but needed assistance with the business plan, financial projections, and paperwork for the purchasing process. Joe provided insight with business plan guidance, covered financing options, and assisted in getting them bank-ready. With Joe's support, Rosemaree and Everett approached Bear Paw Development Corporation to finance the purchase.

Through the assistance provided by Joe at the regional SBDC, Everett and Rosemaree secured the entire requested amount of $290,000 in financing from Bear Paw Development Corporation. Taco Treat was able to retain two full-time and four part-time employees through the transition of the franchise. The purchase allowed the Windy Boy's an opportunity to keep a local business alive and continue to provide a variety of fast-casual Mexican food to Havre and the surrounding community.