



# 10 Ways 10 Days

Invest In Minnesota's Future

## 1st Way

### Invest in Small Business

Robyn Cruet is a small business owner and mother of two young children.

She owns I Heart Kids' Art, an art studio for young children in Minneapolis. "I opened my own business because like so many women who stay home with their kids for a few years, I couldn't find a job when I was ready to return to work," she says.

Robyn turned to WomenVenture, a nonprofit that assists women to create and build their own businesses.

"Owning your own business is very daunting and risky," she says. "I couldn't have done it without WomenVenture's training, mentoring and skill development programs. WomenVenture also helped me get a small business loan, which enabled me to move into a better space and build my business. WomenVenture couldn't help women entrepreneurs like me without the support of grants from Minnesota's Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED)."

Robyn says she's a prime example of the benefits of state investments in small business.

"I have a successful business that helps provide for my family, helps kids learn and creates jobs," she says. "As a small business owner, I am happy to pay my fair share in taxes and I think everyone should do the same."

With support from DEED, WomenVenture will create 25 new businesses, 125 jobs, gross revenues of \$625,000 and state tax revenues of \$106,250 this year.

**For more information about 10 Ways In 10 Days and Invest in Minnesota, contact: Leah Gardner at 651-757-3063, [lgardner@mnbudgetproject.org](mailto:lgardner@mnbudgetproject.org), or visit our website at [www.investinmn.org](http://www.investinmn.org).**



**All Minnesotans benefit when we invest in our communities.**

With fair and adequate revenues, we can support local entrepreneurs, maintain our roads and bridges, invest in our schools and colleges, and provide care and dignity to our senior citizens and people with disabilities.

**After a decade of deep budget cuts, it's time to raise revenues fairly in order to move our state forward and invest in prosperity for all Minnesotans.**

Invest in Minnesota is a coalition of faith, labor and nonprofit organizations united to support revenue raised fairly to invest in Minnesota's future.

