

## KIVA Micro-Loan Project

Greetings Calvary Lutheran Church Women and members of our congregation!

Our KIVA loans have been working miracles for our small businesswomen from around the globe. Since our initial funding of five women, we have been receiving timely repayments from four. Our group from Ecuador has repaid 70% of the loan, while the others are at 30% or so. At one point in the year, there were no loans to be made – all loans had been fully funded! So I had to wait for opportunities to open up. Recently, I was able to reinvest our repayments for four other ladies, to include one from Afghanistan – which was an area of interest for us to invest. Mercy Corps is a partner in funding loans in this location, the risk to our investment is a bit higher than in more stable areas, but I thought it was worth \$25 to improve the lives of the family who will use this loan.

We also funded two loans for crafts-women to buy supplies to make clothing, handbags and other artisan crafts. They have a good track record of repayment with KIVA and are expanding their businesses; all good news.

In order to support KIVA a small donation was made to the organization itself. In total we have \$370 outstanding loans – we look forward to more investing opportunities as they come forward.

For those who may be unfamiliar, a little background on our Micro-loan program. It was initially funded with change collected by individual members over a period of time. We gathered together on a Saturday last fall to brainstorm on funding a micro-loan for women. The collective choice was to work with KIVA because of its proven experience and reinvesting opportunities.

Your continued prayers for this mission are appreciated and we look forward to providing more micro-loans.

To view our portfolios go to

[http://www.kiva.org/team/calvary\\_lutheran\\_church\\_women](http://www.kiva.org/team/calvary_lutheran_church_women)

