Dayton-area pharmacist and businessman Nnodum Iheme wanted to open a pharmacy in the city’s Wright Dunbar Business District for years. His reasons for doing so were multifold. As an entrepreneur, he saw a good business opportunity. As a community supporter, he had an interest in helping revitalize a historic portion of Dayton. But his overriding desire, as a concerned citizen, was to provide pharmacy services and medical equipment supplies to a neighborhood that sorely lacking both in spite of several medical practices nearby.

To that end, Iheme began working with Wright Dunbar Inc., a nonprofit focused on reinvigorating the two-block business district that carries the Wright Dunbar name. A first-floor site in the Rubenstein Building was selected. But the project lacked the necessary funding to launch. Enter Finance Fund, which provided an $83,000 loan from its Finance Fund Capital Corporation lending arm.

As a result, Zik’s Wright Dunbar pharmacy began serving customers and its community in October of 2010.

FINANCE FUND CAPITAL CORPORATION INVESTMENT IMPACT:

• An $83,000 loan to finance the project
• Funding leading to the creation of four jobs immediately and 15 within two years
• Funding that establishes a pharmacy and medical equipment provider in a neighborhood that had neither, filling a critical community need