Located six miles southeast of Worthington on Lake Ocheda, New Beginnings Garden Center is home to a variety of high-quality trees, shrubs, perennials, and greenhouse plants. In addition, New Beginnings provides at-home consultations, seasonal arrangements, gardening supplies, and sells locally produced and handcrafted items in their gift shop. New Beginnings is run and owned by Leanne and Paul Langseth. Leanne has worked in the gardening business since 1998, and after moving to Worthington in 2016, she felt that this move was the opportunity for a new beginning, and became the inspiration for the nursery and greenhouse.

When a storm tore the roof off the New Beginnings gift shop in 2019 and forced them to halt operations and rebuild, the SRDC Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) program, combined with additional funding from local lenders, provided Leanne and Paul the opportunity to get back to building their dream business. RLF funding helped them purchase and replenish their inventory.

The support of the Worthington community has been vital to the success of New Beginnings Garden Center. An assortment of locally produced items such as honey, candles, and wood crafted items are sold at the garden center, and New Beginnings also hosts hands-on workshops.

Paul and Leanne also run Langseth Lodge, a year round-cabin rental, and Prairie Land Trees Inc., a tree trimming service Paul has been running for over 25 years. Leanne and Paul hope to ensure their businesses continue to exceed Worthington’s and the surrounding communities’ expectations, and thanks in part to the SRDC RLF program, New Beginnings Garden Center is optimistic that their success will continue to grow.

The SRDC RLF fund is designed to bridge the gap between owner financing and private lender financing. In today’s economic climate, primary lenders are increasingly seeking ways to decrease risk in their portfolios. This partnership allows the economic engine of the SRDC region to keep producing jobs and keep supporting new business initiatives in a challenging economic environment.