

Deborah Burns is co-founder of investUS LLC and Managing Partner of investUS Opportunity Fund focused on investing in a diversified portfolio of Opportunity Zone businesses and projects in smaller cities and communities that comprise the majority of the 8700+ Opportunity Zones in the U.S. The investUS team has a triple bottom line investment strategy to assure attractive financial returns while increasing local job creation and economic activity in a manner that has a positive social impact on the local community.

Ms. Burns' financial career spans more than 30 years and includes roles as an institutional investment officer in New York City, finance officer at a New Mexico start-up company that became the largest publicly-traded company in the state, and Chief Lending Officer for a community bank. In these roles, she honed her ability to determine key factors for business sustainability, profitability and growth in a wide variety of industries.

During her extensive private placement investment career, Ms. Burns founded the Project Finance Group at TIAA and she was the lead institutional investor for construction and long-term investments in the US and emerging markets. Over the course of her investment career, Ms. Burns specialized in a wide variety of industries including energy, utilities, industrial, retail, transportation, manufacturing, entertainment, media and infrastructure. Ms. Burns developed expertise in structured finance, asset-backed securitization, and infrastructure construction lending. Deborah is now using her years of experience to expand capital sources to stimulate economic growth, create jobs and facilitate investments with a positive social impact in smaller cities, tribal and rural communities.

An Albuquerque native, Ms. Burns graduated from Albuquerque Academy. She earned a BA in Economics from Princeton University. As an undergraduate, Ms. Burns was a research analyst for Burton G. Malkiel, head of the Economics Department at Princeton and she worked with him on his New York Times best-selling book, "A Random Walk Down Wall Street." Ms. Burns also earned an Executive MBA in Finance from New York University's Stern School of Business.