

March 11, 2021 | Community Finance

Souls Grown Deep Foundation backs Paskho to create quality jobs for Gee's Bend quilters in Alabama

ImpactAlpha, March 11 — The Souls Grown Deep Foundation is providing a \$600,000 convertible note to Paskho, a Black-owned eco-friendly apparel company.

Souls Grown Deep holds one of the largest collections of art by African American artists in the U.S. south. Paskho will open a makers pod in Boykin, AL as part of [a new strategy](#) to move all its clothing manufacturing to underserved USA communities. More than 100 artists in Souls Grown Deep's collections have lived and worked in Boykin for four generations (see, "[Souls Grown Deep Foundation to invest \\$1 million in artists' hometowns](#)").

Paskho "offers new opportunities for fair wages through high-quality jobs for a community that has faced historic discrimination and barriers to access for decades," said Soul Grown Deep's **Maxwell Anderson**. Paskho's **Patrick Robinson** says the company can help "disrupt poverty and inequality by empowering makers and following sustainable practices."

The investment is part of an impact investing strategy created with **Upstart Co-Lab** to promote racial and social justice and economic opportunity. Souls Grown Deep says market-access strategies have helped create \$500,000 in direct income for more than 50 quilters in the past six months.

Separately, the foundation partnered with N.Y.-based nonprofit Nest to help quilters promote and sell products.

<https://impactalpha.com/souls-grown-deep-foundation-backs-paskho-to-create-quality-jobs-for-gees-bend-quilters-in-alabama/>