

Golub Capital BDC, Inc.  
Form 10-K  
November 17, 2015

**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20549**

**Form 10-K**

(Mark One)

☒ **ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d)  
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

**For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2015**

**or**

☐ **TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d)  
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

**For the transition period from                      to**

**Commission file number: 814-00794**

**GOLUB CAPITAL BDC, INC.**

**(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)**

Delaware  
(State or Other Jurisdiction of  
Incorporation or Organization)

27-2326940  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

150 South Wacker Drive, Suite 800, Chicago, IL  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

60606  
(Zip Code)

**(312) 205-5050**

(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

## **Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:**

Title of Each Class

Name of Each Exchange on Which Registered

Common Stock, par value \$0.001 per share

The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC

## **Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None**

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes ☐ No ☒

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Act. Yes ☐ No ☒

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant: (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes ☐ No ☐

## Edgar Filing: Golub Capital BDC, Inc. - Form 10-K

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of the registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. ☒ x

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer or a smaller reporting company. See definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer ☒ x      Accelerated filer ☐ o      Non-accelerated filer ☐ o      Smaller reporting company ☐ o

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934). Yes ☐ o No ☒ x

The aggregate market value of common stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant on March 31, 2015 based on the closing price on that date of \$17.55 on the Nasdaq Global Select Market was approximately \$828.8 million. For the purposes of calculating this amount only, all directors and executive officers of the registrant have been treated as affiliates. There were 51,300,193 shares of the registrant's common stock outstanding as of November 17, 2015.

## DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the registrant's proxy statement to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Regulation 14A in connection with the registrant's 2016 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, which will be filed subsequent to the date hereof, are incorporated by reference into Part III of this Form 10-K. Such proxy statement will be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission not later than 120 days following the end of the registrant's fiscal year ended September 30, 2015.

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**PART I**

*In this annual report on Form 10-K, except as otherwise indicated, the terms:*

*we, us, our and Golub Capital BDC* refer to Golub Capital BDC, Inc., a Delaware corporation, and its consolidated subsidiaries, including Holdings, the 2010 Issuer and the 2014 Issuer;

*Holdings* refers to Golub Capital BDC 2010-1 Holdings LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, or LLC, our direct subsidiary;

*2010 Issuer* refers to Golub Capital BDC 2010-1 LLC, a Delaware LLC, our indirect subsidiary;

*2014 Issuer* refers to Golub Capital BDC CLO 2014 LLC, a Delaware LLC, our direct subsidiary;

*Controlling Class* refers to the most senior class of notes then outstanding of the 2010 Issuer or the 2014 Issuer, as applicable;

*2010 Debt Securitization* refers to the \$350.0 million term debt securitization that we completed on July 16, 2010, as most recently amended on June 25, 2015, in which the 2010 Issuer issued an aggregate of \$350.0 million of notes, or the 2010 Notes, including \$203.0 million of Class A 2010 Notes, which bear interest at a rate of three-month London Interbank Offered Rate, or LIBOR, plus 1.74%, \$12.0 million of Class B 2010 Notes, which bear interest at a rate of three-month LIBOR plus 2.40%, and \$135.0 million face amount of Subordinated 2010 Notes that do not bear interest;

*2014 Debt Securitization* refers to the \$402.6 million term debt securitization that we completed on June 5, 2014, in which the 2014 Issuer issued an aggregate of \$402.6 million of notes, or the 2014 Notes, including \$191.0 million of Class A-1 2014 Notes, which bear interest at a rate of three-month LIBOR plus 1.75%, \$20.0 million of Class A-2 2014 Notes, which bear interest at a rate of three-month LIBOR plus 1.45% through December 4, 2015 and three-month LIBOR plus 1.95% thereafter, \$35.0 million of Class B 2014 Notes, which bear interest at a rate of three-month LIBOR plus 2.50%, \$37.5 million of Class C 2014 Notes, which bear interest at a rate of three-month LIBOR plus 3.50%, and \$119.1 million of LLC equity interests that do not bear interest;

*Funding* refers to Golub Capital BDC Funding, LLC, a Delaware LLC, our direct subsidiary;

*Credit Facility* refers to the amended and restated senior secured revolving credit facility that Funding originally entered into on July 21, 2011, as most recently amended on July 30, 2015, with Wells Fargo Securities, LLC, as administrative agent, and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as lender and collateral agent, that currently allows for borrowing up to \$200 million and that bears interest at a rate of one-month LIBOR plus 2.25% per annum through the reinvestment period, which ends July 29, 2017, and bears interest at a rate of one-month LIBOR plus 2.75% for the period following the reinvestment period through the stated maturity date of July 30, 2020;

*Revolver Funding* refers to Golub Capital BDC Revolver Funding LLC, a Delaware LLC, our direct subsidiary;

*Revolver* refers to the \$15.0 million revolving line of credit that Revolver Funding entered into on November 22, 2013 with The PrivateBank and Trust Company, or PrivateBank, as lender and administrative agent, as most recently amended on November 24, 2014 that bears interest, at the election of Revolver Funding, at a rate of either one-, two- or three-month LIBOR plus 3.50% per annum or PrivateBank's prime rate plus 1.50% per annum through November 22, 2015 and either one-, two- or three-month LIBOR plus 2.50% per annum or PrivateBank's prime rate plus 0.50% per annum for the period subsequent to November 22, 2015 with a stated maturity date of November 22, 2020 that was terminated on October 21, 2015;

*SBIC Funds* refers collectively to our consolidated subsidiaries, GC SBIC IV, L.P. and GC SBIC V, L.P.

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*SLF* refers to Senior Loan Fund LLC, an unconsolidated Delaware LLC, in which we co-invest with RGA Reinsurance Company, or RGA, primarily in senior secured loans. SLF is capitalized as transactions are completed and all portfolio and investment decisions in respect of SLF must be approved by representatives of each of the members (with unanimous approval required from either (i) one representative of each of us and RGA or (ii) both representatives of each of us and RGA currently). As of September 30, 2015, we owned 87.5% of both the outstanding subordinated notes and LLC equity interests of SLF. As of September 30, 2015, SLF had subordinated note commitments from its members totaling \$160.0 million and LLC equity interest subscriptions from its members totaling \$40.0 million. We have committed to fund \$140.0 million of subordinated notes and \$35.0 million of LLC equity interest subscriptions to SLF;

*GC Advisors* refers to GC Advisors LLC, a Delaware LLC, our investment adviser;

*Administrator* refers to Golub Capital LLC, a Delaware LLC, an affiliate of GC Advisors and our administrator and for periods prior to February 5, 2013, GC Service Company, LLC; and

*Golub Capital* refers, collectively, to the activities and operations of Golub Capital Incorporated, Golub Capital LLC (formerly Golub Capital Management LLC), which entity employs all of Golub Capital's investment professionals, GC Advisors and associated investment funds and their respective affiliates.

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**Item 1. Business**

**GENERAL**

We are an externally managed, closed-end, non-diversified management investment company that has elected to be regulated as a business development company under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, or the 1940 Act. In addition, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, we have elected to be treated as a regulated investment company, or RIC, under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the Code. We were formed in November 2009 to continue and expand the business of our predecessor, Golub Capital Master Funding LLC, which commenced operations in July 2007, to make investments primarily in senior secured, one stop (a loan that combines characteristics of traditional first lien senior secured loans and second lien or subordinated loans), second lien and subordinated (a loan that ranks senior only to a borrower's equity securities and ranks junior to all of such borrower's other indebtedness in priority of payment) loans of, and warrants and minority equity securities in, U.S. middle-market companies that are, in most cases, sponsored by private equity firms. In this annual report on Form 10-K, the term middle-market generally refers to companies having earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, or EBITDA, of between \$10.0 million and \$50.0 million annually.

Our investment objective is to generate current income and capital appreciation by investing primarily in senior secured and one stop loans of U.S. middle-market companies. We may also selectively invest in second lien and subordinated loans of, and warrants and minority equity securities in U.S. middle-market companies. We intend to achieve our investment objective by (1) accessing the established loan origination channels developed by Golub Capital, a leading lender to middle-market companies with over \$15.0 billion in capital under management as of September 30, 2015, (2) selecting investments within our core middle-market company focus, (3) partnering with experienced private equity firms, or sponsors, in many cases with whom Golub Capital has invested alongside in the past, (4) implementing the disciplined underwriting standards of Golub Capital and (5) drawing upon the aggregate experience and resources of Golub Capital.

We seek to create a portfolio that includes primarily senior secured and one stop loans by primarily investing approximately \$5.0 million to \$30.0 million of capital, on average, in the securities of U.S. middle-market companies. We may also selectively invest more than \$30.0 million in some of our portfolio companies and generally expect that the size of our individual investments will vary proportionately with the size of our capital base.

We generally invest in securities that have been rated below investment grade by independent rating agencies or that would be rated below investment grade if they were rated. These securities, which may be referred to as junk, have predominantly speculative characteristics with respect to the issuer's capacity to pay interest and repay principal. In addition, many of our debt investments have floating interest rates that reset on a periodic basis and typically do not fully pay down principal prior to maturity, which may increase our risk of losing part or all of our investment.

**Information Available**

Our address is 150 South Wacker Drive, Suite 800, Chicago, IL 60606. Our phone number is (312) 205-5050, and our internet address is [www.golubcapitalbdc.com](http://www.golubcapitalbdc.com). We make available, free of charge, on our website our proxy statement, annual report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file such material with, or furnish it to, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC. Information contained on our website is not incorporated by reference into this annual report on Form 10-K and you should not consider information contained on our website to be part of



this annual report on Form 10-K or any other report we file with the SEC.

The SEC also maintains a website that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information we file with the SEC at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). Copies of these reports, proxy and information statements and other information may also be obtained, after paying a duplicating fee, by electronic request at [publicinfo@sec.gov](mailto:publicinfo@sec.gov), or by writing the SEC's Public Reference Section, 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549-0102. You may also read and copy such reports, proxy and information statements at the SEC's Public Reference Room. Information on the operation of the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330.

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### **Our Investment Adviser**

Our investment activities are managed by our investment adviser, GC Advisors. GC Advisors is responsible for sourcing potential investments, conducting research and due diligence on prospective investments and equity sponsors, analyzing investment opportunities, structuring our investments and monitoring our investments and portfolio companies on an ongoing basis. GC Advisors was organized in September 2008 and is a registered investment adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended, or the Advisers Act. Under our amended and restated investment advisory agreement, or the Investment Advisory Agreement, with GC Advisors, we pay GC

Advisors a base management fee and an incentive fee for its services. See **Business Management Agreements Management Fee** for a discussion of the base management fee and incentive fee, including the cumulative income incentive fee and the income and capital gains incentive fee, payable by us to GC Advisors. Unlike most closed-end funds whose fees are based on assets net of leverage, our base management fee is based on our average-adjusted gross assets (including leverage but adjusted to exclude cash and cash equivalents so that investors do not pay the base management fee on such assets) and, therefore, GC Advisors benefits when we incur debt or use leverage. For purposes of the Investment Advisory Agreement, cash equivalents means U.S. government securities and commercial paper instruments maturing within 270 days of purchase. Additionally, under the incentive fee structure, GC Advisors benefits when capital gains are recognized and, because it determines when a holding is sold, GC Advisors controls the timing of the recognition of capital gains. Our board of directors is charged with protecting our interests by monitoring how GC Advisors addresses these and other conflicts of interest associated with its management services and compensation. While not expected to review or approve each borrowing, our independent directors periodically review GC Advisors' services and fees as well as its portfolio management decisions and portfolio performance. In connection with these reviews, our independent directors consider whether our fees and expenses (including those related to leverage) remain appropriate. See **Business Management Agreements Board Approval of the Investment Advisory Agreement**.

GC Advisors is an affiliate of Golub Capital and pursuant to a staffing agreement, or the Staffing Agreement, Golub Capital LLC makes experienced investment professionals available to GC Advisors and provides access to the senior investment personnel of Golub Capital LLC and its affiliates. The Staffing Agreement provides GC Advisors with access to investment opportunities, which we refer to in the aggregate as deal flow, generated by Golub Capital LLC and its affiliates in the ordinary course of their businesses and commits the members of GC Advisors' investment committee to serve in that capacity. As our investment adviser, GC Advisors is obligated to allocate investment opportunities among us and its other clients fairly and equitably over time in accordance with its allocation policy. See **Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Related Party Transactions**. However, there can be no assurance that such opportunities will be allocated to us fairly or equitably in the short-term or over time. GC Advisors seeks to capitalize on the significant deal origination, credit underwriting, due diligence, investment structuring, execution, portfolio management and monitoring experience of Golub Capital LLC's investment professionals.

An affiliate of GC Advisors, the Administrator, provides the administrative services necessary for us to operate. See **Business Management Agreements Administration Agreement** for a discussion of the fees and expenses (subject to the review and approval of our independent directors) we are required to reimburse to the Administrator.

### **About Golub Capital**

Golub Capital, founded in 1994, is a leading lender to middle-market companies, with a long track record of investing in senior secured, one stop, second lien and subordinated loans. As of September 30, 2015, Golub Capital managed over \$11.5 billion of invested or available capital for senior secured, one stop, second lien and subordinated loan

investments in middle-market companies. Since its inception, Golub Capital has closed deals with over 225 middle-market sponsors and repeat transactions with over 130 sponsors.

Golub Capital's middle-market lending group is managed by a four-member senior management team consisting of Lawrence E. Golub, David B. Golub, Andrew H. Steuerman and Gregory W. Cashman. As of September 30, 2015, Golub Capital's more than 85 investment professionals had an average of over 12 years

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of investment experience and were supported by more than 165 administrative and back office personnel that focus on operations, finance, legal and compliance, accounting and reporting, marketing, information technology and office management.

## **Investment Criteria/Guidelines**

We seek to generate strong risk-adjusted net returns by assembling a portfolio of investments across a broad range of industries and private equity investors.

We primarily target U.S. middle-market companies controlled by private equity investors that require capital for growth, acquisitions, recapitalizations, refinancings and leveraged buyouts. We may also make opportunistic loans to independently owned and publicly held middle-market companies. We seek to partner with strong management teams executing long-term growth strategies. Target businesses will typically exhibit some or all of the following characteristics:

- annual EBITDA of \$10.0 million to \$50.0 million;
- sustainable leading positions in their respective markets;
- scalable revenues and operating cash flow;
- experienced management teams with successful track records;
- stable, predictable cash flows with low technology and market risks;
- a substantial equity cushion in the form of capital ranking junior to our investment;
- low capital expenditures requirements;
- a North American base of operations;
- strong customer relationships;
- products, services or distribution channels having distinctive competitive advantages;
- defensible niche strategy or other barriers to entry; and
- demonstrated growth strategies.

While we believe that the criteria listed above are important in identifying and investing in prospective portfolio companies, not all of these criteria will be met by each prospective portfolio company.

## **Investment Process Overview**

We view our investment process as consisting of four distinct phases described below:

*Origination.* GC Advisors sources investment opportunities through access to a network of over 10,000 individual contacts developed in the financial services and related industries by Golub Capital and managed through a proprietary customer relationship database. Among these contacts is an extensive network of private equity firms and relationships with leading middle-market senior lenders. The senior deal professionals of Golub Capital supplement these leads through personal visits and marketing campaigns. It is their responsibility to identify specific opportunities, to refine opportunities through candid exploration of the underlying facts and circumstances and to apply creative and flexible thinking to solve clients' financing needs. Golub Capital's origination personnel are located in offices in Chicago, New York, San Francisco, and Charlotte. Each originator maintains long-standing customer relationships and is responsible for covering a specified target market. We believe those originators' strength and breadth of relationships across a wide range of markets generate numerous financing opportunities, which we believe enables GC Advisors to be highly selective in recommending investments to us.

*Underwriting.* We utilize the systematic, consistent approach to underwriting developed by Golub Capital, with a particular focus on determining the value of a business in a downside scenario. The key criteria that we consider include (1) strong and resilient underlying business fundamentals, (2) a substantial equity cushion in the form of capital ranking junior in right of payment to our investment and (3) a conclusion that overall downside risk is manageable. While the size of our equity cushion will vary over

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time and across industries, the equity cushion generally sought by GC Advisors today is between 35% and 45% of total portfolio capitalization. We generally focus on the criteria developed by Golub Capital for evaluating prospective portfolio companies, and we put more emphasis on credit considerations (such as (1) loan-to-value ratio (which is the amount of our loan divided by the enterprise value of the company in which we are investing), (2) the ability of the company to maintain a liquidity cushion through economic cycles and in downside scenarios, (3) the ability of the company to service its fixed charge obligations under a variety of scenarios and (4) its anticipated strategic value in a downturn) than on profit potential and loan pricing. Our due diligence process for middle-market credits will typically entail:

a thorough review of historical and pro forma financial information;  
on-site visits;  
interviews with management and employees;  
a review of loan documents and material contracts;  
third-party quality of earnings accounting due diligence;  
when appropriate, background checks on key managers and research relating to the company's business, industry, markets, customers, suppliers, products and services and competitors; and  
the commission of third-party market studies when appropriate.

The following chart illustrates the stages of Golub Capital's evaluation and underwriting process:

## **ILLUSTRATIVE DEAL EVALUATION PROCESS**

*Execution.* In executing transactions for us, GC Advisors utilizes the due diligence process developed by Golub Capital. Through a consistent approach to underwriting and careful attention to the details of execution, it seeks to close deals as fast or faster than competitive financing providers while maintaining discipline with respect to credit, pricing and structure to ensure the ultimate success of the financing. Upon completion of due diligence, the investment team working on an investment delivers a memorandum to GC Advisors' investment committee. Once an investment has been approved by the investment committee, it moves through a series of steps towards negotiation of final documentation. Upon completion of final documentation, a loan is funded upon the execution of an investment committee memorandum by members of GC Advisors' investment committee.

*Monitoring.* We view active portfolio monitoring as a vital part of our investment process. We consider board observation rights, where appropriate, regular dialogue with company management and sponsors and detailed, internally generated monitoring reports to be critical to our performance. Golub Capital has developed a monitoring template that is designed to reasonably ensure compliance with these standards. This template is used by GC Advisors as a tool to assess investment performance relative to our investment plan.

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As part of the monitoring process, GC Advisors regularly assesses the risk profile of each of our investments and rates each of them based on an internal system developed by Golub Capital and its affiliates. This system is not generally accepted in our industry or used by our competitors. It is based on the following categories, which we refer to as GC Advisors' internal performance rating:

## Internal Performance Ratings

| Rating | Definition                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|--------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 5      | Involves the least amount of risk in our portfolio. The borrower is performing above expectations, and the trends and risk factors are generally favorable.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 4      | Involves an acceptable level of risk that is similar to the risk at the time of origination. The borrower is generally performing as expected, and the risk factors are neutral to favorable.                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 3      | Involves a borrower performing below expectations and indicates that the loan's risk has increased somewhat since origination. The borrower may be out of compliance with debt covenants; however, loan payments are generally not past due.                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 2      | Involves a borrower performing materially below expectations and indicates that the loan's risk has increased materially since origination. In addition to the borrower being generally out of compliance with debt covenants, loan payments may be past due (but generally not more than 180 days past due).                                                                                                   |
| 1      | Involves a borrower performing substantially below expectations and indicates that the loan's risk has substantially increased since origination. Most or all of the debt covenants are out of compliance and payments are substantially delinquent. Loans rated 1 are not anticipated to be repaid in full and we will reduce the fair market value of the loan to the amount we anticipate will be recovered. |

Our internal performance ratings do not constitute any rating of investments by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization or represent or reflect any third-party assessment of any of our investments.

For any investment rated 1, 2 or 3, GC Advisors will increase its monitoring intensity and prepare regular updates for the investment committee, summarizing current operating results and material impending events and suggesting recommended actions.

GC Advisors monitors and, when appropriate, changes the internal performance ratings assigned to each investment in our portfolio. In connection with our valuation process, GC Advisors and our board of directors review these internal performance ratings on a quarterly basis.

The following table shows the distribution of our investments on the 1 to 5 internal performance rating scale at fair value as of September 30, 2015 and 2014:

| Internal<br>Performance<br>Rating | September 30, 2015                             |                                            | September 30, 2014                             |                                            |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
|                                   | Investments<br>at Fair Value<br>(In thousands) | Percentage of<br>Total<br>Investments<br>% | Investments<br>at Fair Value<br>(In thousands) | Percentage of<br>Total<br>Investments<br>% |
| 5                                 | \$ 134,142                                     | 8.8                                        | \$ 129,806                                     | 9.7                                        |
| 4                                 | 1,298,558                                      | 84.9                                       | 1,144,232                                      | 84.9                                       |