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**CDBA CEO Jeannine Jacokes Honored by Former President Bill Clinton**

**Little Rock, AR, November 20, 2019** – On Wednesday, November 20th, the Clinton Foundation hosted the "Economic Inclusion and Growth: The Way Forward" conference at the Clinton Presidential Center in Little Rock, Arkansas to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the CDFI Fund and to honor the leaders of the CDFI industry.

Over the past 25 years, the CDFI Fund has played a transformational role in the success and sustainability of mission-focused financial institutions across the country. On average, every \$1 of public investment through the CDFI Fund has leveraged an additional \$12 in private capital for these institutions. Through programs like the Bank Enterprise Award program, Financial Assistance, Technical Assistance and Native American CDFI Assistance programs, the Fund has granted awards to over 130 CDFI certified banks to help them develop new products and services, increase their capacity, and expand into new markets and communities. Of those CDFI certified banks, 80 are members of the Community Development Bankers Association (CDBA), the national trade association for community development banks.

At the conference, Former President Bill Clinton recognized CDBA CEO Jeannine Jacokes by discussing her role as the leader of the trade association for CDFI banks, as well as a leader in the loan fund space as the CEO of Partners for the Common Good (PCG). Specifically, he lauded the recent work of CDBA and PCG on the Impact at Scale Initiative, the first industry training program focused on large-scale impact.

CDBA and PCG's Impact at Scale Program offers a one-of-a-kind opportunity for community development banks to enhance their capacity to measure, assess, and communicate their impact. Funded by a \$500,000 grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation of Battle Creek, Michigan, the Initiative will help CDFI banks gather and share information on the quantitative and qualitative outcomes of their \$4 billion+ in small business lending. Additionally, the program aims to increase these banks' effectiveness in serving minority small business owners, which will create jobs and lead to gains in economic opportunities and financial security for low-income and minority families and communities.

In his speech discussing the important work of CDBA and PCG, President Clinton said the following:

"The Community Development Bankers Association and Partners for the Common Good have

committed to advance this field of knowledge, and to share their findings and best practices with their peer organizations so that when we go out and try to convince people to give us money, we'll be able to say things that people will believe because they're true, and digestible and understandable."

With impact measurement gaining relevance in the CDFI industry, the Impact at Scale Initiative remains a critical advancement for CDFIs.

#### **About the CDFI Fund**

The Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Fund was created by the Riegle Community Development and Regulatory Improvement Act of 1994. As a bureau of the U.S. Treasury Department, the CDFI Fund operates programs that use modest amounts of Federal money to leverage significant investments of private sector capital to promote revitalization of low-income communities and bring disenfranchised populations into the economic mainstream.

#### **About CDBA**

The Community Development Bankers Association is the voice and champion of the community development banking movement. CDBA and its 80 CDFI-certified member banks work to make the banking industry a force for good by collectively promoting financial inclusion and creating economic opportunity in the nation's most economically distressed rural and urban communities.

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