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36 Community Development Banks Receive Critical Boost to Provide Capital in Distressed Communities Nationwide

Washington, DC, September 24, 2020 – The US Department of Treasury’s Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Fund today awarded **\$26.85 million** to **36 community development banks and bank holding companies** through its CDFI Program and Native American CDFI Assistance (NACA) Program Awards. With the awards, these banks will provide much-needed capital investments to small businesses and other critical community development projects such as affordable housing, neighborhood revitalization, and expansion into new geographic markets.

The CDFI Program awards include Financial Assistance (FA), Technical Assistance (TA), Disability Funds, and the Healthy Food Financing Initiative. This year, **\$187,278,952** in **total awards** were disbursed to 357 loan funds, credit unions, banks, and venture capital firms. Of the 35 banks and bank holding companies receiving CDFI Program awards, 10 are first-time FA recipients and 25 are members of the Community Development Bankers Association (CDBA). CDBA members collectively received nearly 77% of total Program awards (by dollar amount) dispersed to banks and bank holding companies. In addition, **\$16,842,800** NACA Program awards were disbursed to 40 CDFI organizations, including one bank, Bank of Cherokee County, which is a CDBA member.

“The CDFI Program awards are of critical importance,” said Jeannine Jacokes, CDBA’s Chief Executive Officer. “These dollars will be immediately put to work to create opportunity in parts of the country that have not experienced the same prosperity as the rest of the nation.”

In order to continue revitalization efforts in disenfranchised communities in rural and impoverished urban areas of the country that are often overlooked, it is essential that the CDFI Fund remains intact in the FY 2020 federal budget.

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 US Treasury Department, the CDFI Fund operates programs that use modest amounts of Federal money to leverage a multiple of

private sector capital to promote revitalization of low-income communities and bring disenfranchised populations into the economic mainstream.

The annual CDFI Program uses monetary awards and training opportunities to invest in and build the capacity of CDFIs, enabling them to drive community revitalization in areas with over 30% poverty and 1.5 times the national unemployment rate. Since the CDFI Program was launched in 1994, organizations have received over \$2 billion in Financial and Technical Assistance and the number of certified CDFIs has increased tenfold.

About CDBA

The Community Development Bankers Association is the voice and champion of the community development banking movement. CDBA and its 82 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. We convene community banking peers who strengthen a different kind of banking through collaboration, partnership, and learning.

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