What are CDFIs?

Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) are specialized community-based financial institutions with a primary mission to promote economic development by providing financial products and services to people and communities underserved by traditional financial institutions, particularly in low-income communities.

CDFIs include community development banks and credit unions, and non-regulated institutions such as non-profit loan funds or venture capital funds.

CDFIs in Wisconsin:
- Brewery Credit Union
- Columbia Savings and Loan Association
- Community Assets for People
- CoVantage Credit Union
- First American Capital Corporation
- First Nations Community Financial
- Forward Community Investments, Inc.
- Habitat for Humanity of Dane County, Inc
- Hmong Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce
- Impact Seven, Inc.
- Legacy Redevelopment Corporation
- Milwaukee Economic Development Corporation
- Mitchell Bank
- Mitchell Bank Holding Corporation
- NiiJii Capital Partners, Inc.
- Northwest Side Community Development Corporation
- Northwoods Community Credit Union
- Royal Credit Union
- Ways to Work
- WBD Advantage Fund, LLC
- Wisconsin Native Loan Fund, Inc.
- Wisconsin Womens Business Initiative Corporation

The CDFI Fund – U.S. Department of Treasury

The Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Fund is an innovative federal agency within the Treasury Department that was established in 1994, through the Riegle Community Development and Regulatory Improvement Act, to promote community development in distressed urban and rural communities by increasing the availability of credit, investment capital and financial services available.

Since 1994, the CDFI Fund has awarded more than $2.8 billion on a competitive basis to CDFIs including Native CDFIs, small and emerging CDFIs and financial institutions through the BEA Program.

Number of CDFIs in Wisconsin: 22
Total CDFI Fund awards to Wisconsin organizations since 1996: $84,276,134
New Markets Tax Credit awards to Wisconsin since 2002: $1.9 billion

Putting CDFI Fund Awards to Work

Performance of CDFI Program Awardees in FY 2017

In FY 2017, CDFIs program awardees made over 120,000 loans or investments totaling over $5 billion to more than 12,000 small businesses. The average size of each loan or investment was $41,744. CDFIs also financed over 27,962 affordable housing units.

FY 2017 Loans and Investments by Type (Nationwide)

- Commercial Real Estate 17%
- Residential Real Estate 23%
- Home Improvement and Home Purchase 23%
- Consumer 17%
- Business and Microenterprise 20%
- All Other 4%