Opportunity Finance Network (OFN) is a leading national network of CDFIs with a mission to lead CDFIs and their partners to ensure that low-income, low-wealth, and other disinvested people and communities have access to affordable, responsible financial products and services. OFN’s members invest in opportunities that create quality, affordable housing, vital community services, and entrepreneurial capital in urban, rural, and Native communities. Through 2017, OFN’s members held more than $21.8 billion in total assets and provided $8 billion in financing.

OFN seeks to maximize the effectiveness of CDFIs through direct financing, learning opportunities, industry research, events, and advocacy. As an intermediary, OFN in 2018 manages more than $600 million in on- and off-balance sheet capital. OFN provides capital through its on-balance sheet Financing Fund to CDFIs through unsecured debt, secondary capital investments, equity investments, and loan participations, and currently has $130 million outstanding to and in participation with CDFIs.

As a certified CDFI, OFN has received a total of $21.6 million in CDFI Fund Financial Assistance awards and $22 million in New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC). In addition, the CDFI Fund has regularly contracted with OFN to provide capacity building training and services to strengthen the industry. OFN is a Qualified Issuer for the CDFI Fund’s CDFI Bond Guarantee Program, enabling it to facilitate the provision of long-term, low-cost debt to eligible CDFIs. In total, OFN has issued $472 million in Bonds for 16 CDFIs to date, of which $234 million has been disbursed.

American Health Management in Kentucky

Opportunity Finance Network (OFN) was an early proponent of the Bond Guarantee Program (BGP), and led industry efforts to help create this transformative source of capital for CDFIs. From efforts to create and pass initial legislation, to the expansion of the BGP through alternative financing structures, to its role as an approved and experienced Qualified Issuer (QI), OFN is committed to realizing this program’s full potential to bring long-term, fixed rate debt capital to lenders serving underserved areas of the country, all at no cost to the taxpayer.

In 2013, OFN led the inaugural round of Bond guarantees as QI and issued the first ever CDFI Bond, a $100 million Bond on behalf of Clearinghouse CDFI. In 2015, OFN issued two bonds totaling $227 million: a second $100 million bond to Clearinghouse CDFI and a $127 million bond to another group of seven diverse CDFIs that included rural, urban, and Native CDFIs. In 2017, OFN's fourth issue, a $145 million bond involved eight small and mid-sized CDFIs; this issuance includes the most participants in a single issue since the program’s inception in 2010.

American Health Management, an adult health care facility located in Kentucky, is one beneficiary of the BGP program. OFN member Kentucky Highlands Investment Corporation’s borrower, American Health Management, was able to refinance its outstanding debt and expand its services to rural Kentucky’s senior population. The $3 million loan considerably improved the terms of American Health Management’s debt and enabled their purchase of commercial real estate to expand services to a significantly larger population and house their corporate offices.