April 28, 2021

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro  
Chairwoman  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mike Quigley  
Chairman  
House Appropriations Committee  
Subcommittee on Financial Services  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Steve Womack  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Committee  
Subcommittee on Financial Services  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Quigley and Ranking Member Womack:

We write to request that the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 provide maximum funding for the Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Fund. Access to affordable credit is a pressing issue in many underserved rural, urban, and Native communities, which has been underscored by the pandemic, and with the support of the CDFI Fund, CDFIs will continue to provide the assistance necessary for communities and small businesses to recover.

The CDFI Fund’s mission is to expand the capacity of CDFIs to provide credit, capital, and financial services to underserved populations and communities across the country. Since its inception, the CDFI Fund has awarded more than $3.6 billion on a competitive basis to CDFIs, which leverage over $12 in capital from other sources for every dollar of CDFI Fund assistance.

The CDFI Fund provides resources for a range of innovative and effective programs through this appropriation that enable CDFIs to address the needs of their target markets. CDFI Fund programs include: Financial Assistance (FA) and Technical Assistance (TA) awards to small and emerging CDFIs, established CDFIs, the Native American CDFI Assistance (NACA) Program aimed at increasing the number and capacity of CDFIs serving Native communities, and CDFIs serving persons with disabilities; Healthy Food Financing Initiative (HFFI) to expand financing for healthy food options in underserved urban and rural communities; and the Bank Enterprise Awards (BEA) program providing monetary awards to FDIC-insured banks that invest in low-
income communities and/or CDFIs. In addition, the FY21 appropriations also provided funding for the Small Dollar Loan Program and Economic Mobility Corps.

The CDFI Fund also administers the New Market Tax Credit Program, the Capital Magnet Fund, and the CDFI Bond Guarantee Program, all designed to generate lending and investing to promote revitalization in economically distressed communities.

In FY 2020\(^1\), CDFI program awardees made over 1,000,000 loans or investments totaling more than $25.4 billion. The average size of each loan or investment was under $25,000. CDFIs also financed over 41,000 affordable housing units. Additional details of this activity include: $10 billion for consumer loans, $6.5 billion for home improvement and purchase loans, $3.9 billion for business and microenterprise loans, and $2.2 billion for residential real estate transactions.

CDFIs provide a wide variety of financial services to support the recovery of underserved markets under siege from COVID-19. In addition to stabilizing businesses, CDFIs finance: initiatives to expand access to healthy food; health centers and hospitals; affordable housing; shelters; treatment centers; and other businesses and community facilities on the front lines of the pandemic.

As our nation continues to recover from the health and economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the CDFI Fund can play a crucial role in supporting our nation’s recovery. Data from the Paycheck Protection Program shows that minority business owners and vulnerable communities had a more difficult time accessing, or were unable to access, program resources than other businesses and communities. The fact is that CDFIs could have done more, if more CDFIs had the capital and approval necessary to operate as PPP lenders during the early days of the program. The provisions in H.R. 133, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, put the CDFI Fund, and CDFIs on firmer footing.

What is needed next is a continuing level of investment to sustain the effort to revitalize low-income and marginalized communities that were suffering even before the pandemic. For this reason, we urge the committee to provide maximum funding for the CDFI Fund in the FY 2022 Appropriations. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

CAROLYN B. MALONEY  DON YOUNG
Member of Congress  Member of Congress

BARBARA LEE  BILL PASCRELL, JR.
Member of Congress  Member of Congress

\(^1\) Audit of the CDFI Fund’s 2020 financial statements by the Treasury Dept. Office of Inspector General
/s/ CHELLIE PINGREE  
Member of Congress

/s/ STEVE COHEN  
Member of Congress

/s/ BRENDAN F. BOYLE  
Member of Congress

/s/ ANGIE CRAIG  
Member of Congress

/s/ SUZANNE BONAMICI  
Member of Congress

/s/ ANDRÉ CARSON  
Member of Congress

/s/ MARK DESAULNIER  
Member of Congress

/s/ NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ  
Member of Congress

/s/ BRIAN HIGGINS  
Member of Congress

/s/ JARED GOLDEN  
Member of Congress

/s/ EARL BLUMENAUER  
Member of Congress

/s/ KATHLEEN M. RICE  
Member of Congress

/s/ SYLVIA R. GARCIA  
Member of Congress

/s/ JIMMY PANETTA  
Member of Congress

/s/ ANTONIO DELGADO  
Member of Congress

/s/ GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLÁN  
Member of Congress

/s/ STEPHEN F. LYNCH  
Member of Congress

/s/ JUDY CHU  
Member of Congress

/s/ JOSEPH D. MORELLE  
Member of Congress

/s/ RON KIND  
Member of Congress

/s/ LLOYD DOGGETT  
Member of Congress

/s/ JOAQUIN CASTRO  
Member of Congress
CINDY AXNE  
Member of Congress

NANETTE DIAZ BARRAGÁN  
Member of Congress

VERONICA ESCOBAR  
Member of Congress

CHRISSY HOULAHAN  
Member of Congress

JASON SMITH  
Member of Congress

ANNA G. ESHOO  
Member of Congress

ELISSA SLOTKIN  
Member of Congress

MIKE DOYLE  
Member of Congress

SHARICE L. DAVIDS  
Member of Congress

DAVID N. CICILLINE  
Member of Congress

FILEMON VELA  
Member of Congress

ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON  
Member of Congress

AL LAWSON  
Member of Congress

JOSH GOTTHEIMER  
Member of Congress

ROBERT C. “BOBBY” SCOTT  
Member of Congress

JIM HIMES  
Member of Congress

DANIEL T. KILDEE  
Member of Congress

DAVID B. MCKINLEY  
Member of Congress

LISA BLUNT ROCHESTER  
Member of Congress

JAHANA HAYES  
Member of Congress

CHERI BUSTOS  
Member of Congress

JIM COSTA  
Member of Congress
TONY CÁRDENAS
Member of Congress

JIMMY GOMEZ
Member of Congress

BILL FOSTER
Member of Congress

MIKE LEVIN
Member of Congress

G. K. BUTTERFIELD
Member of Congress

JUAN VARGAS
Member of Congress

MAXINE WATERS
Member of Congress

MIKE THOMPSON
Member of Congress

TERRI A. SEWELL
Member of Congress

AYANNA PRESSLEY
Member of Congress

FREDERICA S. WILSON
Member of Congress

MARIE NEWMAN
Member of Congress

KAREN BASS
Member of Congress

JOHN KATKO
Member of Congress

LORI TRAHAN
Member of Congress

FRANK PALLONE, JR.
Member of Congress

SALUD O. CARBAJAL
Member of Congress

STEVEN HORSFORD
Member of Congress

LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ
Member of Congress

JOHN P. SARBANES
Member of Congress

RASHIDA TLAIB
Member of Congress

A. DONALD MCEACHIN
Member of Congress


/s/ SEAN CASTEN
Member of Congress

/s/ ILHAN OMAR
Member of Congress

/s/ TED W. LIEU
Member of Congress

/s/ MIKIE SHERRILL
Member of Congress

/s/ EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON
Member of Congress

/s/ JAN SCHAKOWSKY
Member of Congress

/s/ GWEN MOORE
Member of Congress

/s/ RO KHANNA
Member of Congress

/s/ RITCHIE TORRES
Member of Congress

/s/ NIKEMA WILLIAMS
Member of Congress

/s/ DIANA DEGETTE
Member of Congress

/s/ HAKEEM JEFFRIES
Member of Congress

/s/ VICENTE GONZALEZ
Member of Congress

/s/ DONALD J. BACON
Member of Congress

/s/ ALBIO SIRES
Member of Congress

/s/ RAÚL M. GRIJALVA
Member of Congress

/s/ RAUL RUÍZ, M.D.
Member of Congress

/s/ JASON CROW
Member of Congress

/s/ CONOR LAMB
Member of Congress