

I hope you will join Opportunity Finance Network (OFN) in getting a message to Congress this week about the pressing need for federal funding. Our ask is \$1 billion for the CDFI Fund. It is vital that we equip CDFIs to meet the challenge we are facing.

The COVID-19 pandemic is impacting people in unprecedented ways. However, CDFIs are already rising to meet this challenge. In recent days, I have talked to numerous CDFI leaders about the obstacles they are overcoming and the new challenges they are facing during this health crisis. The economic disruption in the low-wealth communities where CDFIs operate is just beginning but already grave.

OFN is appealing to Congress and the President to include \$1 billion in supplemental funding to our industry as part of the emergency spending legislation currently under consideration.

[Take Action Today](#)

For decades, CDFIs have demonstrated their flexibility, capacity, and experience in providing affordable and responsible financing in low-wealth communities. CDFIs are the financial first responders during natural disasters, financial crises, and terror attacks.

The federal government is moving quickly (as soon as this week!) to respond to the crisis with new spending to address the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on the economy. OFN is asking Congress and the President to provide \$1 billion for the CDFI Fund to be deployed through existing CDFI Fund grant programs. Please visit [OFN's Policy Action Center](#) for sample text and other information that will help you reach out to your elected officials.

Thank you for your support of CDFIs and your advocacy.

Sincerely,



Lisa Mensah
President and CEO
Opportunity Finance Network