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## **CDFI FUND RECEIVES 131 APPLICATIONS TOTALING \$106.6 MILLION UNDER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE COMPONENT OF THE CDFI PROGRAM**

Washington, DC - The Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Fund of the U.S. Department of the Treasury today announced that it received 131 applications in the fiscal year 2003 round of the CDFI Program's Financial Assistance (FA) Component. The applicants requested an aggregate of over \$106.6 million in assistance.

"I am very pleased with the response to this, the Fund's primary financing program for CDFIs," said CDFI Fund Director Tony T. Brown. "The response demonstrates a significant need to capitalize community development financial institutions, in light of major reforms by the Administration to target Federal dollars to our nation's most distressed areas. Among a number of changes, the CDFI Fund introduced a geographic focus called "Hot Zones," giving priority to applicants that show that they will use the CDFI Fund's award to invest in the nation's most highly economically distressed low-income communities.

The CDFI Fund announced that it was making available approximately \$30 million through a FA Component Notice of Funds Availability that was published in the Federal Register on February 4, 2003. The deadline for applications was April 14, 2003.

Applications will now be evaluated through a merit-based qualitative review to identify those applicants most likely to have the greatest impact in our nation's most distressed low-income rural and urban communities. The CDFI Fund anticipates announcing the organizations that will receive FA Component awards this summer. The characteristics of the applicant pool include:

- The CDFI Fund received applications from 39 states and the District of Columbia.
- 96 (73 percent) applicants primarily serve urban areas.
- 35 (27 percent) applicants primarily serve rural areas.
- 10 applicants are "faith-based" institutions and an additional nine applicants finance faith-based institutions.
- Institutional type:
  - 104 (79.4 percent) applicants are loan funds;
  - 21 (16.1 percent) applicants are insured depository institutions (banks and credit unions); and
  - 6 (4.5 percent) applicants are other types of CDFIs.
- 99 (75.6 percent) applicants stated that they would serve Hot Zones.
- These 99 applicants requested an aggregate of \$84.8 million, of which \$54.6 million is proposed to be targeted to Hot Zones.

Additional information can be found on the CDFI Fund's web site at [www.cdfifund.gov](http://www.cdfifund.gov).

For press releases, speeches, public schedules and official biographies,  
please visit our website at [www.cdfifund.gov](http://www.cdfifund.gov)

