



## CAPACITY BUILDING INITIATIVE

# HANDS-ON

Training For Stronger, More Robust **CDFIS**

The Community Development Financial Institutions Fund (CDFI Fund) created the Capacity Building Initiative to help Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) improve their ability to deliver financial products and services to economically underserved communities. Capacity building—increasing an organization’s ability to operate effectively—is critical to the success of these community-based affordable lenders, and the people who depend on them. In recognition of its importance, and with input from CDFIs on the frontlines, the CDFI Fund champions capacity building in support of the burgeoning industry’s growth and development.

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### **HOW DOES THE CAPACITY BUILDING INITIATIVE BENEFIT CDFIS?**

CDFIs can access free training workshops, webinars, market research, customized technical assistance, and informational resources to help them develop, diversify, and grow.

CDFIs can use the assistance to:

- Achieve long-term organizational sustainability
- Attract external funding
- Expand into new lines of business
- Strengthen management, internal operations, and increase staff knowledge
- Stay on the cutting edge of the industry

The CDFI Fund also offers a highly-specialized Resource Bank on its website, [www.cdfifund.gov/cbi](http://www.cdfifund.gov/cbi), to provide additional reference materials to the CDFI industry on some of the training topics. The Resource Bank includes past training materials, case studies, and links to relevant outside resources.

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## WHAT TOPICS ARE COVERED?

The CDFI Fund aims to offer top-notch, specialized training and technical assistance at no cost to CDFIs. We listen to your needs and stay on top of industry trends to provide timely resources that are relevant to your line of business. Current and past capacity building assistance have been provided on:

- Portfolio Management
- Capitalization and Liquidity
- Financing Healthy Food Options
- Small Business Lending and Microfinance
- Native CDFI Growth

Visit [www.cdfifund.gov/cbi](http://www.cdfifund.gov/cbi) for the full course listing and browse our Resource Bank of reference materials.

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## OUR CAPACITY BUILDING MODEL

CDFIs are at the heart of our approach to capacity building. Our training model is:

- Customized—we provide support that is relevant to your specific needs.
  - Wide-Ranging—Our training runs the gamut from general business operations to targeted programs to help you create a new line of business.
  - High-Quality—You will learn from the foremost experts in the field.
  - Convenient—We offer seminars locally or on-site, and also have online resources.
  - Free—We cover your tuition and materials.
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## WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE?

The Capacity Building Initiative is available to any emerging or certified CDFI. CDFIs are mission-driven financial institutions that specialize in serving low-income individuals and distressed communities. CDFIs include:

- Banks
  - Credit unions
  - Loan Funds
  - Venture Capital Funds
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## FIND OUT MORE

Visit our website: [www.cdfifund.gov/cbi](http://www.cdfifund.gov/cbi)

Call our help desk for support: (202) 653-0421

Email us your questions: [cdfihelp@cdfi.treas.gov](mailto:cdfihelp@cdfi.treas.gov)