



Virginia CDFI Coalition

Virginia First Cities Annual Meeting
June 4th, 2021

What is a CDFI?

- **Community Development Financial Institutions are private financial institutions that drive non-predatory capital to low-wealth communities.**
- **CDFIs are certified by the US Department of Treasury as financially-sustainable and mission-forward.**
- CDFIs may be banks, credit unions, loan funds, or venture capital firms.
- Virginia has more than 17 CDFIs with track records reaching back more than 30 years.
 - Small business lending
 - Real estate and affordable housing
 - Clean energy lending
 - Food access lending and support
 - Consumer lending and banking services

The “ask” – The Virginia CDFI Fund

- Dedicate millions of taxpayer dollars to circulate in Virginian communities through CDFIs.
 - Virginia’s CDFIs must otherwise compete with over 1,000 other CDFIs nationwide for allocations from the federal CDFI Fund. Virginia’s smaller CDFIs – and the communities they serve – are often at a disadvantage.
- Many uncertainties in Federal allocations to CDFIs, creating inefficiencies and timing delays.
 - Establishing the Virginia CDFI Fund directs survival capital to Virginia’s communities without the frustration of Federal bureaucracy.

The Virginia Small Business Recovery Fund



ONE-TIME FUNDING OF
\$10 MILLION TO THE
VA DEPT. OF HOUSING
AND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT (DHCD)



DHCD HAS
FINANCIAL SUPPORT
TO FULLY STAFF THE
PROGRAM



PROGRAM DESIGN
AND STAKEHOLDER
ENGAGEMENT HAS
BEGUN



The **Virginia CDFI Coalition** seeks to offer a collective voice to address issues concerning unmet financial needs of Virginia communities by advocating for greater awareness of CDFI activities and operations and by supporting the goals of its member organizations with peer support and education. These goals will be implemented by the Coalition members individually and collectively in statewide and local venues with an emphasis on social and racial equity.

Priorities:

Advocacy and education

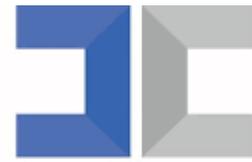
- Support the establishment of the new VA CDFI Fund at DHCD.
- Educate policymakers and other stakeholder groups on the value and work of CDFIs.
- Advocate for the VA CDFI industry to be considered in local, state, and federal programs related to economic development, investment, and financing.
- Connect and partner with similar or complementary associations to provide and enhance resources for our communities across the state.

Industry Best Practices and Partnerships

- Develop analytical tools to better reflect CDFI impact across the state.
- Learn from each other's experience and innovations to better serve our communities.
- Partner on projects and participate in lending opportunities.
- Identify joint funding opportunities.
- Work to increase efficacy of the VA CDFI industry and associated infrastructure.

Storytelling and market education

- Tell our borrowers' and partners' stories.
- Build the "CDFI brand" in VA.



**COMMUNITY
BUSINESS
PARTNERSHIP**

CAPITAL IMPACT
PARTNERS





PIEDMONT
HOUSING
ALLIANCE

RVA
Financial



 **tap**
into hope

THE
SOCIAL JUSTICE
INVESTOR 

