






Opportunity Finance Network (OFN) advances government policies to help CDFIs better serve low-income, low-wealth, and underserved communities. Our public policy work is grounded on our commitment to ensure fair and equal access to responsible, affordable financial products and services for underserved communities, particularly communities of color and Native American people.




Our advocacy draws on the experiences and expertise of our Member CDFIs. For that reason, the participation of CDFI leaders in OFN's policy development and advocacy work is key to our efforts.

In 2015, OFN will actively engage its Members and other CDFI supporters in advancing our CDFI Opportunity Agenda.

Improve CDFI Access to Federal Resources




-  Increase FY 2016 CDFI Fund appropriations level above FY 2015.
-  Continue CDFI Bond Guarantee Program through FY 2016, increase the number of CDFIs using the program in 2015 and beyond, and make the program easier for CDFIs to use.
-  Extend authorization of the New Markets Tax Credit during the 114th Congress.
-  Secure funding for the Capital Magnet Fund Program.
-  Create and expand CDFI access to other federal programs based on OFN members' priorities and opportunities.

Increase State Resources for CDFIs

-  Strengthen Member CDFI capacity to advocate for access to state-level resources.
-  Help CDFIs leverage the federal State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) and other similar programs.
-  Support Member CDFI advocacy at the state, as well as federal, level.

Get Involved

We encourage all OFN Member CDFIs, other CDFIs, and OFN allies to participate in our advocacy work. To that end, OFN offers tools and opportunities to CDFIs and allies to support participation:

-  Register for OFN's Advocacy Day, May 20, 2015 in Washington, DC. This event serves to further OFN's legislative and policy priorities before members of Congress and executive branch officials.
-  Join OFN's CDFI Coverage Map, an interactive, national map of CDFI loans that is key to national and state advocacy.
-  Participate in OFN's working groups and coalitions to advance our shared policy priorities.

For more information about the Opportunity Agenda please contact Liz Lopez at llopez@ofn.org.