#### Spring 2024



BLOOMINGTON

## What is a CDFI?

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It is the policy of CDFI Friendly Bloomington (CFB) to provide, free of charge, timely and meaningful access for Limited English Proficient (LEP) individuals to all CFB programs and activities. To inquire about language assistance services, please contact us by phone or at info@cdfifriendlybtown.org.

CDFI stands for **C**ommunity **D**evelopment **F**inance Institution. There are about 1,500 of these institutions nationwide engaged in \$250 billion in lending.

CDFIs are private financial institutions (non-governmental, but certified by the US Treasury) whose mission is 100% dedicated to delivering responsible, affordable lending to people and projects in various markets. In general, CDFIs must invest a majority of their resources to benefit underserved and disadvantage populations and communities. These are known as "target markets".

# <u>In other words</u>: Mission-based lenders who provide financing (loans) for community development and other projects. A lot of times, they are nonprofit entities. <u>If you have a community project in mind, keep us on the list of possible financial resources</u>.

### Who uses CDFIs?

#### Communities

Public facilities, affordable housing, childcare and certain types of infrastructure

#### **Businesses**

Small businesses, microenterprises, nonprofit organizations, commercial real estate, affordable housing and agriculture

#### Consumers

Credit enhancement, mortgage assistance and auto loans

## What does the "Friendly" mean?

South Central and Southern Indiana are full of people innovating and seeking opportunities to jumpstart their ideas, and our organization can help connect those projects to financing opportunities. However, our area hasn't traditionally seen

investment by CDFIs – so a new model was created for this in 2018 – the first one in the country that originated in Bloomington.

CDFI Friendly Bloomington can help in the following ways for potential borrowers to get CDFI funding:

- 1. Identifying and developing CDFI investment opportunities in the region.
- 2. Marketing of prospective CDFI investment opportunities to CDFIs.
- **3.** Working with potential borrowers and CDFIs to provide technical assistance and coordination.
- 4. Providing gap, or "enhancement", financing to complete investments in the region with public and private funds from our own loan pool.

We can help "connect the dots" on project financing by working with partners across the region and figuring out if there's a CDFI who could help provide financing for the borrower or the project.

## Where do we work?

We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that serves Bloomington and Monroe County, as well as 12 other Indiana counties: Brown, Crawford, Daviess, Dubois, Greene, Jackson, Lawrence, Martin, Morgan, Orange, Owen and Washington.



# Impact So Far

Since it was founded in 2018, CDFI Friendly Bloomington has worked with regional partners to facilitate \$26 million in investment by 9 CDFIs, with \$58 million in total projects. Projects so far have included affordable and cooperative housing, small business expansion, clean energy investment and public art installation.

## **EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant**

CDFI Friendly Bloomington was recently awarded a \$500,000 grant from the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). We would be glad to discuss assessments for potential project sites in your community!