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OFN Names Andrew Givens as Chief Operating Officer and Jennifer Vasiloff as Chief External Affairs Officer

Key hires further strengthen OFN's commitment to bring more capital, capacity, and visibility to community development financial institutions delivering responsible finance

Philadelphia, PA & Washington, D.C., November 8—Opportunity Finance Network (OFN) today announced Andrew Givens, an accomplished executive with more than 20 years' experience in the public, nonprofit and private sectors, has joined the national network of community development financial institutions (CDFIs) as Chief Operating Officer. Givens is responsible for leadership, strategic direction, executive management, and representation of OFN. In addition, Jennifer Vasiloff joins OFN as Chief External Affairs Officer, a role capitalizing on her 16 years of experience in promoting and strengthening the CDFI field. Vasiloff will lead the organization's efforts to raise the profile of CDFIs, particularly at the national level.

"I am delighted to announce Andrew Givens and Jennifer Vasiloff as key hires," said Lisa Mensah, president and CEO of OFN. "OFN is deeply committed to making an impact in underserved communities by bringing more capital, capacity, and visibility to CDFIs. Andrew and Jennifer will play critical roles as OFN forges greater partnerships and fosters bigger initiatives for CDFIs. Their experience and talent will contribute to our goal of advancing meaningful changes in the financial outlook for individuals and communities across the country."

Givens said, "This is a challenging time for CDFIs as we navigate a shifting legislative environment, ongoing changes in technology, new partnership opportunities, and continuing demand for our services. I look forward to working with OFN's leadership team to make important decisions about how OFN will continue to excel and serve the evolving needs of the CDFI field."

Givens brings to OFN extensive leadership experience with federal affairs and the policy-making process. Most recently, he was Chief of Staff for Rural Development at USDA, serving under Lisa Mensah. Prior to USDA, he was Vice President, Government Affairs at the Public Broadcasting Service for over five years. Andrew also spent close to ten years on the Senate Appropriations Committee, as General Counsel to the Senate Appropriations Committee and as the Minority Staff Director for the Subcommittee on Veterans Affairs, Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Combatting poverty has been Jennifer Vasiloff life's work. Most recently she was the principal of a public policy consulting firm where her clients included CDFIs, affordable housing organizations, and federal agencies. In 2016, Vasiloff served as Senior Advisor to USDA Under Secretary for Rural Development, Lisa Mensah, where she worked to expand CDFI participation in the Community Facilities Re-lending program. Vasiloff led the CDFI



industry's public policy work for over a decade, first as Executive Director of the CDFI Coalition and then from 2010 to 2014 as Executive Vice President, Public Policy for OFN. Other leadership positions Jennifer has held include serving as Executive Director of the Coalition on Human Needs and Vice President of The Sheridan Group.

Vasiloff said, "I'm excited to return to OFN with the goal of increasing resources and visibility for the CDFI field. I have a deep appreciation of the work OFN members do every day to invest in people and communities. I am committed to strengthening and promoting the CDFI field so together we can achieve even greater impact

Note: Photos of Andrew Givens and Jennifer Vasiloff available [here](#).

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About OFN

Opportunity Finance Network (OFN), the national network of community development financial institutions (CDFIs), strives to ensure low-income and other under-resourced communities have access to affordable, responsible financial products and services. Members of OFN are CDFIs that deliver responsible lending to help low-income communities join the economic mainstream. Through 2015, OFN's network originated \$48 billion in financing in rural, urban, and Native communities. This financing has helped to create or maintain more than 1,044,000 jobs, start or expand nearly 191,000 businesses and microenterprises, and support the development or rehabilitation of nearly 1.5 million housing units and 9,800 community facility projects. For more information, visit www.ofn.org.