Community development financial institutions (CDFIs) are private financial institutions that are 100% dedicated to delivering responsible, affordable lending to help low-income, low-wealth, and other disadvantaged people and communities join the economic mainstream.

CDFIs are opportunity investors. We create opportunities and provide resources to help people act in the best interests of their communities, themselves, and future generations. By financing community businesses- including small businesses, microenterprises, nonprofit organizations, commercial real estate, and affordable housing- CDFIs spark job growth and retention in hard-to-serve markets across the nation.

CDFIs are active across the United States, and finance diverse projects, such as charter schools in California, affordable housing developments in Chicago, community health centers in New York, and rural fisheries in Maine. In addition to financial assistance, CDFIs provide technical assistance in areas like business planning.

As the industry grows, there are new and endless ways to become involved in opportunity finance. In this packet, you will find further information about Opportunity Finance Network, CDFIs, job and internship opportunities, a list of available resources, and sample case studies about real issues that CDFIs face. We encourage everyone, students and professors alike, to take advantage of these resources and learn more about opportunity finance, its impact, and the role that you can play.
Be a part of aligning capital with justice in underserved communities.

**Students:** spread the word about opportunity finance to your peers and check out the many jobs and internships available.

**Professors and educators:** contact Beth Lipson, Executive Vice President of Strategic Initiatives, at blipson@ofn.org for more information about introducing opportunity finance to the classroom.

For more information on career opportunities at Opportunity Finance Network, contact Tamara Frye, Senior Associate of Human Resources at tfrye@ofn.org.

If you are interested in investment opportunities in CDFIs, contact Fran Lutz, Chief Financial Officer, at flutz@ofn.org for more information.

### About Opportunity Finance Network

OFN is the leading national network of CDFIs investing in opportunities that benefit low-income, low-wealth, and other disadvantaged communities across America. OFN partners across the public and private sector – with foundations, banks, corporations, and government agencies—to provide innovative solutions and to scale capital into larger investments. OFN offers industry-leading advocacy as well as financing, consulting, research and marketing support for CDFIs and their partners.

OFN Members are performance-oriented, responsible investors that finance community businesses, spark job growth in the areas that need it most, and deliver both sound financial returns and real changes for people and communities. OFN Members have originated more than $33 billion in financing in the last 30 years in urban, rural, and Native communities.