

# Funding for Equitable Pandemic Recovery

By Department of the Treasury CDFI

WASHINGTON—Yesterday, Vice President Kamala Harris and Deputy Treasury Secretary Wally Adeyemo announced that the United States Department of the Treasury's Community Development Financial Institutions Fund (CDFI Fund) has awarded more than \$1.73 billion in grants to 603 Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) across the country through the CDFI Equitable Recovery Program (CDFI ERP). These funds will strengthen the ability of CDFIs to help low- and moderate-income communities recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and invest in long-term prosperity.

Authorized by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Pub. L. 116-260) to respond to the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, CDFI ERP is designed to:

- Provide funding to Certified CDFIs to expand lending, grant making, and investment activities in low- to moderate-income communities and to borrowers with significant unmet capital

and financial services needs that have experienced disproportionate economic impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic

- Catalyze growth in both the financial and organizational capacity of CDFIs for the purpose of carrying out equitable recovery activities

"When we invest in community lenders, we help build a future where all people—no matter who they are or where they start—have the resources they need not only to succeed but to thrive," said Vice President Kamala Harris. "These grants—representing the largest CDFI grant program in history—will enable hundreds of community lenders to invest in small businesses and entrepreneurs, and also provide home loans for families, financial services for local nonprofits, and capital for community organizations."

"These grant funds will be transformative for grantees that are building a more equitable, resilient economy, along with helping sustain our strong economic recovery," said Secretary of the Treasury Janet L. Yellen. "These critical resources will allow mission-driven lenders to expand access



to capital in financially underserved communities, which will help increase contributions to long-term economic growth."

"Today's awards represent a truly historic opportunity to accelerate efforts in America's

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**Federal Contracting: Veteran Small Business Certification Program Webinar**  
Monday, April 17, 2023, 12:00 pm–1:00 pm CDT Online  
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration  
Contact: Jo Eckert, 319-362-6405, [jo.eckert@sba.gov](mailto:jo.eckert@sba.gov)  
Fee: Free; registration required  
Learn about SBA's new Veteran Small Business Certification program. Certification has been transferred from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to SBA as of January 1, 2023. Certification with SBA allows service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses (SDVOSBs) to compete for sole-source and set-aside federal contracts across the federal government. Certified veteran-owned small businesses (VOSBs) have additional opportunities to veterans administration and set-aside contracts at the Veterans Administration (VA) under the VA's Vets First program. Register for this free webinar at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/veteran-small-business-certification-vetcert-program-tickets-580691793787>

**8(a) Orientation and SAM Registration Webinar**  
Wednesday, April 19, 2023, 9:30 am–10:30 am CDT Online  
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration  
Contact: SO Illinois District Office, 312-353-4528, [illinois.do@sba.gov](mailto:illinois.do@sba.gov)  
Fee: Free; registration required  
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**Selling to the Federal Government Webinar**  
Thursday, April 27, 2023, 12:00 pm–3:00 pm CDT Online  
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Contact: George Tapia, 610-382-3086, [george.tapia@sba.gov](mailto:george.tapia@sba.gov)  
Fee: Free; registration required  
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**CERTIFICATION**

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