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PRESS RELEASE

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CDFA Announces Winners of CDFA Florida Financing Roundtable Excellence Awards —Winners to be recognized at annual Florida Conference in August—

The Council of Development Finance Agencies (CDFA) is proud to announce the winners of the 2015 CDFA Florida Financing Roundtable Excellence Awards.

“Each year CDFA is proud to honor excellence in development finance. The work of our award winners is cutting edge, innovative, and an example of best practices in our industry,” said Toby Rittner, CDFA President & CEO.

The CDFA Florida Financing Roundtable Excellence Awards recognize outstanding development finance programs, agencies, projects, and success stories. These awards, presented at the CDFA Florida Financing Roundtable Conference, honor excellence in the use of financing tools for economic development, as well as the individuals who champion those efforts. This year’s honorees are:

CDFA Excellence Award: Agency – Enterprise Florida, Inc.

CDFA is proud to award Enterprise Florida, Inc. (EFI) with the CDFA Excellence Award. Enterprise Florida operates as the primary economic development organization for the state of Florida, and is renowned across the nation for success in fostering economic development. EFI has won the Silver Shovel Award from Area Development magazine for the third year in a row, which honors organizations that drive significant job creation. The agency’s State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) programs are directly responsible for a number of new jobs, in addition to small business development and expansion throughout the state. Earnest Products, a fabricator of high-quality sheet metal, can attest to this. Through EFI’s SSBCI program, Earnest Products received a \$10 million loan package, enabling the company to quadruple its building space, sell up to \$100 million in products, and create 25 new jobs.

CDFA Excellence Award: Project – New CASA Domestic Violence Center of Pinellas County

CDFA is pleased to announce a Florida Community Loan Fund (FCLF) project as the winner of the 2015 CDFA Florida Financing Roundtable Excellence Award. As a result of FCLF’S allocation of federal and state New Market Tax Credits (NMTC), CASA Domestic Violence Center of Pinellas County will triple its capacity with a new 40,000 square-foot, 100-bed facility that is expected to serve 1,000 low-income Floridians each year and create or retain 192 jobs. The total project cost was \$12 million, and it received an allocation of \$12 million in FCLF federal NMTCs and \$4.8 million in FCLF state NMTCs.

The CDFA Florida Financing Roundtable Excellence Awards will be formally presented at the **2015 CDFA Florida Financing Roundtable Conference**, in Orlando, Florida on August 5th.

The Council of Development Finance Agencies is a national association dedicated to the advancement of development finance concerns and interests. CDFA is comprised of the nation’s leading and most knowledgeable members of the development finance community representing public, private and non-profit entities alike. For more information about CDFA, visit www.cdfa.net.

CDFA: Advancing Development Finance Knowledge, Networks & Innovation

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