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NEWS RELEASE

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**CDFA & CALED Launch California Financing Roundtable
-- New Partnership Will Build Development Finance Network in Golden State --**

Columbus, OH – The Council of Development Finance Agencies (CDFA) and the California Association for Local Economic Development (CALED) are pleased to announce the launch of the **California Financing Roundtable**. The Roundtable is dedicated to developing a sustainable economic development finance industry for the state of California and will bring the development finance industry together through education, resource development, research and networking.

The CDFA California Financing Roundtable is supported and endorsed by CALED and will be a unique state/national partnership for the development finance and economic development industries in California.

“CDFA is very proud to announce the launch of this new state roundtable for the development finance industry in California,” said Toby Rittner, President & CEO of CDFA. “California has been very active in CDFA over the past three decades and launching this Roundtable is a milestone achievement for CDFA. We are equally proud to build this new Roundtable in partnership with CALED and the leadership in the state.”

CDFA began discussions to launch this new Roundtable last year with nearly a dozen meetings throughout the state to build momentum. Enthusiasm for this initiative was very high, and support has poured in from throughout the state to help CDFA launch this effort. Most notably, CDFA and CALED have entered into an exclusive partnership agreement to build the initiative.

“This is an exciting opportunity for CALED members to benefit from CDFA’s knowledge and leadership in economic development finance,” said Gurbax Sahota, President & CEO of CALED. “We are pleased to collaborate with Toby and his team to bring new resources, tools, and partners to grow local economic development in California. “

CALED members will receive discounts to attend Roundtable events; have access to a monthly CDFA California Financing Roundtable newsletter, as well as other benefits through this partnership.

The Roundtable is the first CDFA effort in the west and is an area that CDFA is extremely interested in expanding into. The Roundtable will be offering webcasts, online resources, live events and a dedicated state finance newsletter in the coming months. Topics covered will include bonds, redevelopment, tax credits, revolving loan funds, capital access, energy finance, seed and venture capital, public-private partnerships and the entire development finance toolbox.

The Roundtable will be kicked-off with a free statewide webcast titled, “[Unlocking the Development Finance Toolbox in California](#).” The webcast will be held on May 23, 2013 at 1:00 pm (PDT), and will feature a panel of

state and local experts from throughout California exploring the depths and potential for unlocking the development finance toolbox in the Golden State. The webcast is free and open to all. Registration is available at www.cdfa.net or www.caled.org.

CDFA has a very strong presence in California with dozens of member organizations located in the state and thousands of professionals engaged in CDFA on an ongoing basis. California is also well represented within CDFA's leadership with three top state leaders serving on the Council's Board of Directors.

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.

The **California Association for Local Economic Development** is California's premier economic development association. With over 750 members, it is one of the largest economic development associations in the country, which is why we refer to our membership as California's Economic Development Network. Since 1980, when it was created, CALED has led the way in teaching economic developers, local elected officials, and state representatives the value of economic development, and how it is used to create quality jobs, help businesses, and generate revenue to support community development programs. For additional information, please visit www.caled.org.

CDFA: Advancing Development Finance Knowledge, Networks & Innovation

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