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**PRESS RELEASE**



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*in partnership with*



## **CDFA Kentucky Financing Roundtable Launched** **— In partnership with the Bluegrass International Fund (BiF)—**

Columbus, OH – The Council of Development Finance Agencies (CDFA) is pleased to announce the launch of the **CDFA Kentucky Financing Roundtable**. The CDFA Kentucky Financing Roundtable has partnered with the Bluegrass International Fund (BiF) to advance the development finance industry in Kentucky.

“CDFA is very proud to announce the launch of this state roundtable for the development finance industry in Kentucky,” said Toby Rittner, President & CEO of CDFA. “With the overwhelming support of the Bluegrass International Fund, we are excited to be moving forward and begin building this initiative together.”

The CDFA Kentucky Financing Roundtable, in partnership with BiF, is dedicated to retaining and expanding a sustainable economic development finance industry in the state of Kentucky through education, resource development, research and networking.

To kick-off the Roundtable, CDFA will host a one-day conference titled, “Unlocking Development Finance in the Bluegrass State” in Lexington. The conference will be held in the Fall 2015 and will feature a number of economic development finance experts and leaders from around the state discussing new development finance tools, authorities, resources and approaches, and how these methods can move Kentucky’s economy forward. Along with the conference the CDFA Kentucky Financing Roundtable, in partnership with the BiF, will offer webcasts, online resources and a dedicated state finance newsletter in the coming months.

“When you look at places around the country that have transformed the economic vitality of their communities, it’s the communities that are very aware of all the financing tools available to them and how to use them to get large scale economic development projects off the ground,” said Lynn Allen, President & CEO of BiF. “That is what CDFA is all about and BiF looks forward to bringing, for the first time, CDFA’s resources and best practices to stakeholders here.”

As part of this launch, the CDFA Kentucky Financing Roundtable Advisory Committee was established to help lead the initiative’s programming and direction. Advisory Committee participation is open to all active CDFA members. Interested stakeholders should contact CDFA to serve on the Advisory Committee. To learn about membership, visit the CDFA website.

CDFA has a very strong presence in Kentucky with five member organizations located in the state and hundreds of professionals engaged in CDFA on an ongoing basis.

More information regarding the CDFA Kentucky Financing Roundtable conference will be available at [www.cdfa.net](http://www.cdfa.net) soon.

**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](http://www.cdfa.net).

The **Bluegrass International Fund’s (BiF)** mission is to accelerate job and economic growth in Kentucky and Southern Indiana. Designated by the US Citizenship and Immigration Service as a Regional EB-5 Center, BiF attracts foreign investment into economic development projects that spur local job growth. Since the EB-5 Program was established by Congress in 1990, it has produced more than 85,000 full-time American jobs and contributed \$5 Billion to US GDP. BiF is the first Regional EB-5 Center to focus exclusively on investing throughout Kentucky and Southern Indiana. It selectively funds real estate projects that will generate significant long-term job creation. For more information about BiF, visit [www.bluegrass-fund.com](http://www.bluegrass-fund.com).