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CDFA Releases Redevelopment Financing Recommendations for Mary Queen of Vietnam Community Development Corporation And Gulf Coast Housing Partnership

-CDFA Brownfields Technical Assistance Program-

Columbus, OH – The Council of Development Finance Agencies (CDFA) staff and technical assistance providers traveled to New Orleans, Louisiana to provide financing recommendations to Mary Queen of Vietnam Community Development Corporation (MQVN) and the Gulf Coast Housing Partnership (GCHP). MQVN plans to develop an urban farm expansion project along with a commercial kitchen and office building on a site that once served as a gas station and later, a hotel. MQVN has collaborated with GCHP to include a senior living facility for community residents as well. CDFA staff and advisors toured the project site and held meetings with several local officials and stakeholders before providing recommendations.

"MQVN has been incredibly successful in leading the community rebuilding efforts since Hurricane Katrina. The redevelopment of this particular site is challenging because the cost is very high and resources are limited. We have been impressed with the commitment of MQVN and GCHP in overcoming this challenge and we are confident that the recommendations provided will assist in securing the needed financing for the project." said Emily Moser, Program Manager for CDFA's Brownfields Technical Assistance Program.

Tuan Nguyen, Executive Director of MQVN Community Development Corporation, stressed the importance of the site visit related to the community rebuilding efforts. "The site visit from CDFA helped us to understand how we could leverage new opportunities built on our former successes. We especially benefited from the knowledge the team shared with us related to the structuring of New Markets Tax Credits."

Project Response Team site visits are available through CDFA's Brownfields Technical Assistance Program, funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Communities interested in receiving a Project Response Team site visit should contact Emily Moser at **emoser@cdfa.net**.

View the full Viet Village Roadmap to Redevelopment report online.

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**.

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