



October 21, 2016

PRESS RELEASE

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CDFA Announces Excellence in Development Finance Program Award **—Presented to Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation—**

Columbus, OH – The Council of Development Finance Agencies (CDFA) is proud to announce the Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation as the winner of the 2016 CDFA Distinguished Development Finance Program Award for their Lehigh Valley Lending Network.

The CDFA Excellence in Development Finance Awards recognize outstanding development finance programs, agencies, leaders, projects and success stories. These awards honor excellence in the use of financing tools for economic development, as well as individuals who champion these efforts.

The Lehigh Valley Lending Network is a partnership with area banks that will provide access to a wide range of financing options to promote economic growth in the region. The network is comprised of 13 local banks, administered by LVEDC, which also administers all of the public financing programs for both Lehigh and Northampton counties. The Lending Network offers a single point of entry for both private and public financing that allows businesses that are seeking financing to simultaneously access and shop commercial lending institutions and economic resource providers.

To learn more about the Lehigh Valley Lending Network go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0D2OvgR7TIU>.

“CDFA is proud to honor LVEDC on their efforts to help promote the exciting economic growth that is occurring in the Lehigh Valley area. The Lehigh Valley Lending Network is an exemplary partnership and serves as a fine model for others in our industry to follow,” said Toby Rittner, President & CEO of CDFA.

The CDFA Excellence in Development Finance Awards will be formally presented at the 2016 CDFA National Development Finance Summit, in New Orleans, LA on November 3.

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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