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**PRESS RELEASE**

Council of Development Finance Agencies  
100 East Broad Street, Suite 1200  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
614-705-1300  
[www.cdfa.net](http://www.cdfa.net)

**CONTACT:**

Toby Rittner  
President & CEO  
[trittner@cdfa.net](mailto:trittner@cdfa.net)

## **Holly Hunt Presented Prestigious CDFA Lifetime Achievement Award** — Distinguished Development Finance Career Recognized —

Columbus, OH — The Council of Development Finance Agencies (CDFA) is proud to announce the recipient of the **2024 CDFA Lifetime Achievement Award**, Holly Hunt, Program Manager for the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. This year's winners will be formally awarded during a special ceremony at the 2024 CDFA National Development Finance Summit in Baltimore, MD, on November 14.

The CDFA Lifetime Achievement Award is given to individuals who have made outstanding and lasting contributions to the development finance industry throughout their professional careers. This award honors those individuals and their dedication to advancing new development finance tools, strategies, and approaches.

"As a key figure on the SSBCI scene, Holly's expertise in small business financing has spread nationwide. We have appreciated her dedication to serving as an educator for years at CDFA and are happy to honor her with this award for her contribution to the industry," states Toby Rittner, DFCP and President & CEO of CDFA.

As the Program Manager for the **Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA)** since 2012, Ms. Hunt has provided crucial guidance in creating and operating Georgia's highly successful SSBCI Program. Georgia's innovative SSBCI programs offer unique financing structures that have proven effective in reaching socially and economically disadvantaged individuals (SEDI).

At the request of the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Ms. Hunt's team shares Georgia's remarkable SSBCI success by offering consulting services to other states and tribal governments, helping others build local programs to serve their own SEDI markets. As a result, DCA's master agreements with lenders and form templates have been utilized as a model for many other SSBCI programs.

Ms. Hunt is also the manager of the DCA's Georgia Agribusiness and Rural Jobs Act Program and serves as the liaison for the Federal Opportunity Zone Program. Before DCA, Ms. Hunt enjoyed a successful career in the community banking industry and as Chief Financial Officer for Access to Capital for Entrepreneurs (ACE), a CDFI in North Georgia. She also served on boards of local non-profits and as the Chairman of the White County Chamber of Commerce'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](http://www.cdfa.net).

*CDFA: Advancing Development Finance Knowledge, Networks & Innovation*

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