November 12, 2026

PRESS RELEASE

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Daniel Marsh Presented Prestigious CDFA Lifetime Achievement Award

— Distinguished Development Finance Career Recognized —

Dublin, OH — The Council of Development Finance Agencies (CDFA) is proud to announce the recipient of the **2026 CDFA Lifetime Achievement Award**, Daniel Marsh, former President and CEO of Grow America. This year's winners will be formally awarded during a special ceremony at the 2026 CDFA National Development Finance Summit in Savannah, GA, on November 20.

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.

"Dan Marsh is a veteran leader in the development finance industry whose expertise is evident in the success of Grow America under his presidency. He has more than earned this award," stated Toby Rittner, DFCP, and President & CEO of CDFA.

Daniel Marsh III served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Grow America, formerly NDC, from January 2017 until August 2026, capping a 40-year career with the organization. He was the third president in its history and now continues in an advisory capacity as Special Advisor to the President.

Mr. Marsh's work in economic and community development spans decades across the public, private, and nonprofit sectors, encompassing business finance, real estate development, and continuing education focused on community development. Widely regarded as one of the nation's leading experts in community development finance and program design, he oversaw every aspect of Grow America's staff and operations nationwide: advisory services, education, community development financing, small business lending, affordable housing finance and development, and social infrastructure.

His tenure as President and CEO was defined by strategic innovation and organizational resilience. He guided the organization through the COVID-19 pandemic, scaling its programs to deliver critical resources to small businesses and communities at their moment of greatest need. He oversaw its evolution from NDC to Grow America, a rebranding that reaffirmed the founding mission to direct opportunity to economically underserved communities. He also presided over significant expansion of the New Markets Tax Credit program, affordable housing investments, and social infrastructure initiatives, directing billions of dollars into communities from coast to coast. Grow America today stands at its greatest point of financial strength and stability.

Before becoming President and CEO, Mr. Marsh served as Executive Vice President for Policy and Programs in NDC's Washington office and as Eastern Regional Director of Advisory Services. He is credited with incorporating and building NDC Housing and Economic Development Corporation, the mission-focused affiliate that houses the organization's nationally recognized Social Infrastructure Program, Tax Leveraged Investment Program, and Federal Home Loan Bank member lending programs.

Mr. Marsh began his career with the City of Newburgh, New York, rising to Executive Director of its Office of Economic Development. There, he carried out a revitalization program that secured more than $100 million in investment in a city that had experienced massive disinvestment over the previous 30 years. He was the founding director of the Newburgh Local Development Corporation and Executive Director of the City's Industrial Development Agency, overseeing the financing and development of key commercial and industrial real estate projects and creating New York State's first Small Issue Industrial Revenue Bond Pool Financing Program. He also championed the preservation of the city's past: under his leadership, Newburgh created a federally recognized historic district—at the time, the largest contiguous historic district in America—and he authored the City's Historic Preservation Ordinance, which established its Architectural Review Commission.

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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