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PRESS RELEASE

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CDFA Recognizes Alessandra Desiderio, DFCP

—Newest Graduate of the Prestigious Development Finance Certified Professional (DFCP) Program —

Columbus, OH — The Council of Development Finance Agencies (CDFA) is pleased to announce Alessandra Desiderio, Development Officer for Prairie Rose Development, in Kirk, CO, as the newest graduate of the prestigious Development Finance Certified Professional (DFCP) program. Ms. Desiderio joins the ranks of fellow graduates who have invested in their professional development and are recognized as emerging leaders in the development finance industry.

“CDFA is always looking to engage the best and brightest in development finance with this program, and we are happy to welcome Alessandra into the ranks of DFCP graduates,” states Toby Rittner, DFCP and President & CEO of CDFA. “Our hope is that through their participation in the DFCP program, graduates leave ready to employ development finance tools in the communities they work in.”

With over 20 years of experience in strategic business endeavors, fundraising, and policy, Alessandra Desiderio is a seasoned professional celebrated for her versatile skill set. Her capabilities encompass sales, fundraising, commercial and nonprofit growth, community betterment, and human resources. Alessandra's journey includes service as a lobbyist in multiple states, including Colorado, Oklahoma, Wyoming, and Washington D.C., where she contributed to shaping policy. Her active involvement in various fellowships and programs, coupled with her contributions to impactful projects like Prairie Rose Development, South Sudan Healthcare's successful capital campaign, and B Side Capital's Main Street Program expansion, reflects her enduring commitment to leadership.

Alessandra's certifications, including Development Finance Certified Professional (DFCP) and Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE), underscore her dedication to excellence. She has been honored with awards such as the "Outstanding Women in Business (Finance)" in 2020 and the "Torch of Freedom" Stephen Wright Legacy in 2015, reflecting her meaningful contributions. Beyond her professional achievements, Alessandra actively engages in advocacy and volunteer initiatives, making a lasting and positive contribution to the organizations she supports.

CDFA's Development Finance Certified Professional (DFCP) Program is an intense training course learning experience and is the industry's only comprehensive development finance professional certification program. The DFCP Program is designed to produce graduates with a comprehensive knowledge of development finance concepts, tools, and applicability as well as a deep understanding of the entire development finance spectrum. Graduates of the DFCP Program gain valuable knowledge and experience within the complex development finance industry and achieve a level of understanding unmatched by any other professional certification program.

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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