

## CDFI FUND AWARD APPLICATIONS

**Purpose:** Awards from CDFI Fund programs are an integral part of growing and capitalizing any CDFI, whether it is a [Technical Assistance or Financial Assistance](#) award or a [Capital Magnet Fund](#) or [Small Dollar Loan Program](#) grant. A competitive application tells a cohesive and compelling story that demonstrates your ability to create economic impact in your community.

**Process:** We have developed a successful collaborative process for CDFI grant application development. First, we introduce your FJA consultant, a seasoned industry professional who serves as Project Manager, writes the narrative, and analyzes the data components of the application. You get regular updates and clear direction, offering your team peace of mind that the application is moving forward in a logical, efficient, and timely manner.

We begin each engagement by framing the application strategy. Next, we collaborate to craft your **case for support** - the unique story that sets your organization apart from other applicants, regardless of the size of your portfolio or organizational focus. We know that a strong case for support clearly connects your 'ask' to your strategy and your financials.

Also, to address the challenges associated with using the CDFI Fund's AMIS system we created the [myFund Workbook](#), a **proprietary** tool that simplifies the proposal process. It guides you through the application, analyzes risk and financial health metrics like capital adequacy, asset quality, earnings, and capital and operating liquidity. And since CDFI applications are a team effort, myFund uses cloud-based Google Drive to make collaboration straightforward and simple! Clients who use it say that It is a "must-have" tool for preparing a CDFI Fund application!

**Options:** You can choose to engage our team in the following ways:

- 1) FULL APPLICATION ASSISTANCE** - With this level of support, we do the heavy lifting for you – from project management to completing a narrative drafting and two revision to guidance and direction on the data components of the application.
- 2) APPLICATION REVIEW AND COACHING** - If your team is prepared to do the heavy lifting but wants an outside eye on the proposal, we can provide myFund Workbook, help craft the strategy and provide review and substantive feedback on up to three narrative and workbook drafts.
- 3) MYFUND WORKBOOK** - If your team has the time and experience to complete a competitive application, our myFund Workbook is available for purchase on its own.

If you are interested in learning more about assistance with funding applications, reach out to Jason Friedman at [jasonj@friedmanassociates.net](mailto:jasonj@friedmanassociates.net) or [schedule a meeting](#)