



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS FUND
601 THIRTEENTH STREET, NW, SUITE 200 SOUTH
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

July 15, 2003

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

I am very pleased to announce that the second competitive round for the allocation of New Markets Tax Credits (NMTCs) officially opened today with the transmission of the Notice of Allocation Availability (NOAA) to the Federal Register. The NOAA, the Allocation Application and related guidance on the allocation process are now available on the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund's (the Fund) website at: www.cdfifund.gov.

The NMTC Program is an important community and economic development tool that will help to stimulate up to \$15 billion of needed private sector capital investments in low-income communities. We view this program as a vital tool in meeting President Bush's vision of a more prosperous America for all Americans.

NMTCs will be allocated annually by the Fund to Community Development Entities (CDEs) under a competitive application process. Through this second NOAA, the Fund invites CDEs, and those entities seeking CDE designation from the Fund, to compete for tax credit allocations in support of an aggregate total of \$3.5 billion in qualified equity investments. The deadline for Allocation Applications will be September 30, 2003. Please see the NOAA for more detailed information.

As with last year's Allocation Application, applicants to the Fund's programs will be able to apply on-line over the World Wide Web using an Electronic Application. This technology has and will continue to greatly enhance our internal processing of applications and we expect all applicants to utilize this new opportunity.

To learn more about the NMTC Program, I invite you to participate in the Fund's interactive video teleconference information session, which will be broadcast via satellite on August 6, 2003 to secured Federal facilities throughout the country. For more information, or to register to attend, please visit the Fund's website at www.cdfifund.gov or call us at (202) 622-8401.

Thank you for your interest, and we look forward to receiving your application.

Sincerely,

Tony T. Brown