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PRESS RELEASE

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Jamie Karl Joins CDFA as Senior Director of Advocacy & Government Affairs

— Mr. Karl to Lead CDFA Advocacy Work in Washington, D.C. —

Columbus, OH — The Council of Development Finance Agencies (CDFA) proudly announces that **Jamie Karl** has joined our team as **Senior Director of Advocacy & Government Affairs**. Mr. Karl will be vital in advancing CDFA's national development finance policy agenda.

"CDFA is thrilled to add Jamie Karl as our new Senior Director of Advocacy & Government Affairs," said **CDFA President & CEO Toby Rittner**. "His vast experience in public policy, advocacy, legislative affairs, and government relations will elevate CDFA's work to protect, preserve, and strengthen development finance tools on Capitol Hill and within the Administration. We're excited to have him join the CDFA team and to help drive our important advocacy work for years to come."

As Senior Director of Advocacy & Government Affairs, Mr. Karl will manage legislative and grassroots advocacy, write policy papers, coordinate advocacy events like Capitol Hill Days and policy briefings, and oversee CDFA's Advocacy Center and the Legislative and Federal Affairs Update newsletter. Mr. Karl will help shape CDFA's future direction and support our network of economic development practitioners by remaining at the forefront of development finance.

"The world of development finance is evolving rapidly, presenting new challenges and unprecedented opportunities nationwide," Karl said. "This makes CDFA's mission more important than ever. It is a true honor to be part of CDFA's highly respected team and to serve the hundreds of public, private, and non-profit development finance entities that rely on CDFA for industry-leading services, including advocacy. I look forward to advancing CDFA's public policy objectives and ensuring that federal policymakers understand the importance of these key initiatives."

Karl has over two decades of executive-level public policy experience in the non-profit and government sectors. This includes five years as managing director of communication and marketing services for the Ohio Manufacturers' Association, and a dozen years as vice president of public affairs and policy at the Nebraska Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

In 2005 and 2006, Karl served as deputy director of agriculture under Nebraska Governor Dave Heineman. Before that, he spent nearly six years on Capitol Hill as a legislative aide to U.S. Senator Chuck Hagel (Nebraska) and legislative director to Congressman Lee Terry (Nebraska).

Karl is an Army veteran. He earned his Bachelor of Journalism from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and is a 2018 U.S. Chamber's Institute for Organization Management graduate.

Karl is passionate about economic development, especially for rural and underserved communities. In 2018, he formed a 501(c)3 non-profit called Renew Dorchester, which aims to enhance the quality of life in the Village of Dorchester, Nebraska – Karl's hometown. He's a longtime American Legion and the Arbor Day Foundation member.

Karl enjoys spending time at his acreage and fruit tree farm in Holmes County, in the heart of Ohio's Amish Country.

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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